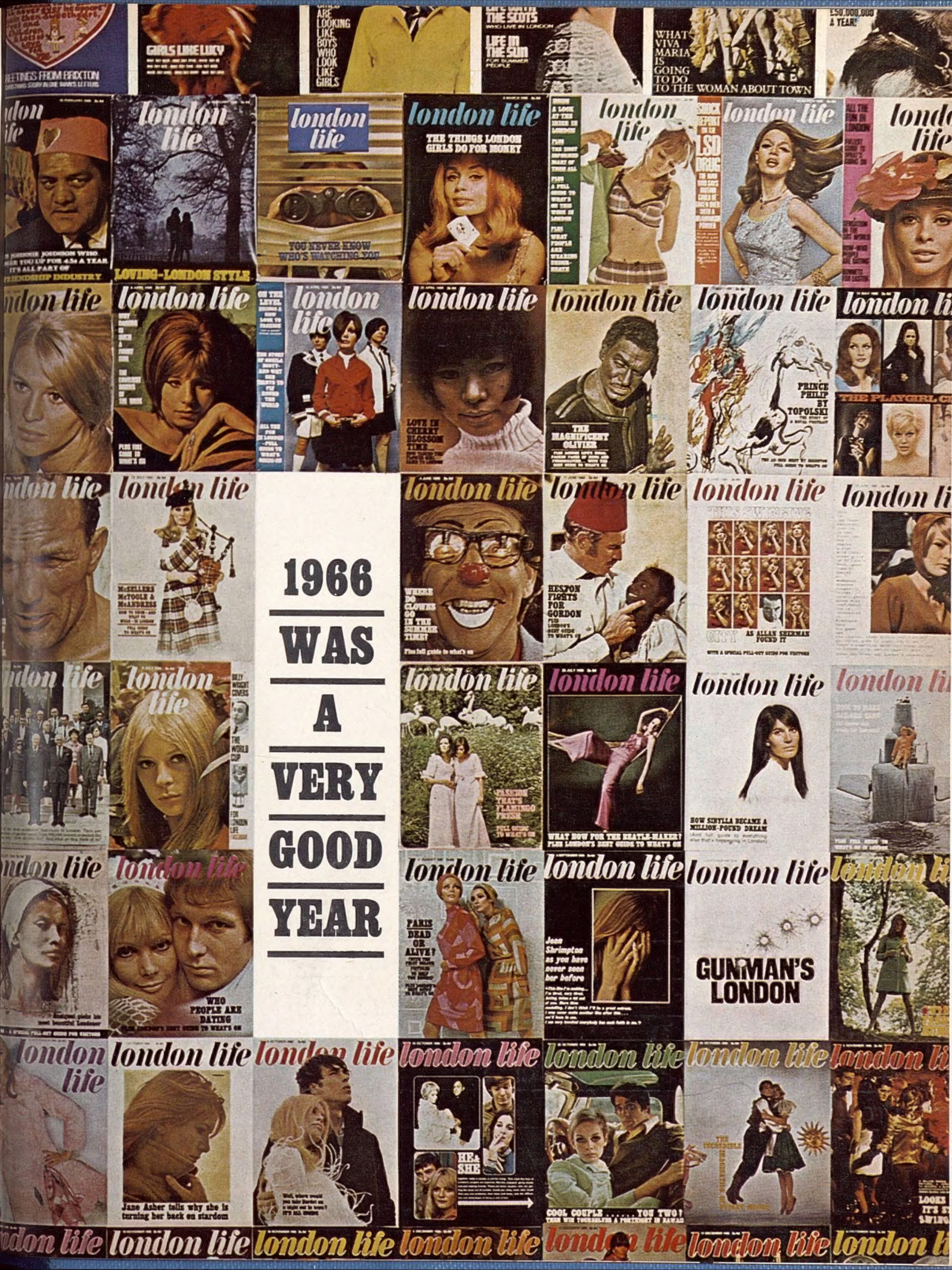
GREETINGS FROM BRIXTON
GIRLS LIKE LUCY
ARE LOOKING LIKE BOYS WHO LOOK LIKE GIRLS
THE SCOTS
LIFE IN THE SUN
WHAT VIVA MARIA IS GOING TO DO TO THE WOMAN ABOUT TOWN
£50,000,000 A YEAR!
london life
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YOU NEVER KNOW WHO'S WATCHING YOU
THE THINGS LONDON GIRLS DO FOR MONEY
LSD DRUG
LOVE IN CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME
THE MAGNIFICENT OLIVIER
PRINCE PHILIP BY TOPOLSKI
WHERE DO CLOWNS GO IN THE SUMMER TIME?
HESTON FIGHTS FOR GORDON
AS ALLAN SHERMAN FOCUSED IT
PASSION THAT'S FLAMINGO PINK
WHAT NOW FOR THE BEATLE-MAKER?
HOW SIBYLLA BECAME A MILLION-POUND DREAM
PARIS DEAD OR ALIVE?
Jane Shrimpton as you have never seen her before
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WHO PEOPLE ARE DATING
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31 DECEMBER 1966 2s 6d

LONDON LIFE

Editor Ian Howard. **Deputy Editor** David Campbell. **Copy Editor** Roger Baker.
Production Editor Patrick Brangwyn. **Information Editor** David Quinlan.
Fashion Editor Sarah Drummond. **Diary Editor** Jeremy Harrison.

INCORPORATING THE TATLER

It's over: the year that will be recorded by social historians with amusement and curiosity as the year that London swung. *London Life* takes a brisk look backwards over the major events of the year—it wasn't all sweet and light. There was the menace of LSD, shootings and a freeze that started long before the frost came. *London Life* also looks ahead, and refreshes the mind with news of hot, sunny places to which one can travel without exceeding that £50 allowance. The week between Christmas and New Year is notoriously hard to please, with adults knocked out and children raring to go. There are, however, a number of fascinating diversions (apart from all those Christmas shows).

There's the *Daily Mail* Schoolboys' and Girls' Exhibition at Olympia, and the 8th Annual Racing Car Show, also at Olympia (it opens on 4 January), which should captivate fathers and sons alike.

The year 2000

For the slightly more serious minded Leslie Ginsburg is delivering two special Christmas holiday lectures at the Royal Institute of British Architects at 66 Portland Place, W1. Under the general title Count Down to 2000 AD, the first (29 December) discusses how and where everyone is going to live; the second (30 December) on the design of architecture of the future. Both lectures are at 3 p.m.

In the theatre there's a revival of *Rigoletto* at the Royal Opera House (30 December) with the petite coloured coloratura soprano Reri Grist as Gilda, and on Saturday (31 December) there's a matinee of *Cinderella* with Antoinette Sibley as the kitchenmaid turned princess.

Julie Andrews

There are three new films: *Deadlier than the Male* with Richard Johnson as Bulldog Drummond fighting murderous ladies all over the place (Leicester Square 29 December); *Gambit* with Shirley Maclaine and Michael Caine as an unusual comedy duo (Odeon, Leicester Square 28 December).

And, of course, the eagerly-anticipated *Hawaii* with Julie Andrews and Max von Sydow (Astoria, 2 January).

WHAT'S IN LONDON LIFE

We can't claim that the pretty girl above has seen our holiday guide inside. Still we're sure she would be surprised to find how easy it is to holiday abroad on £50. Page 22

With the birth of a new year, London Life looks back at 1966 . . . the year when London was proclaimed Swinging; the year of Barbra Streisand, the World Cup and Bunnies. Page 12

Yasuko Nagazumi, the little flowergirl from Japan, was photographed by London Life earlier this year. From her picture, she was signed up for a film premièred this week Page 4.

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Order London Life for a Happy New Year—see page 54

BRITAIN'S ALL-FAMILY SHOW!
INTERNATIONAL
BOAT SHOW
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JANUARY 4/14
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WE FORECAST SUCCESS FOR YASUK BACK IN APRIL ... AND HERE SHE IS PROVIN

LONDON LIFE has, of course, a quite distinguished record of revelations and scoops. But probably its greatest discovery was the little flower girl from Japan, Yasuko Nagazumi. We found her in Chelsea at the beginning of the year, a little frightened, a touch unsure. She had fallen in love with tall Hungarian writer Ivan Berenji during the last Olympiad, and, contrary to her parents' wishes, eloped with him. She arrived in London (vast, foreign, forbidding town) sick and unhappy. Together they set up house at the end of the King's Road, Yasuko enlivening the flat with the delicate flower arrangements she had learned in Tokyo. *London Life* put her on the cover (that is it, above) and recorded her tender, but dramatic story. She had no job, but was hoping that a big London hotel would employ her to arrange the flowers in the foyer. But she didn't know that already wheels were turning that would introduce her to a more prestigious career. Film director Ralph Thomas was looking for beautiful girls of all nationalities to play in his latest film *Deadlier than the Male*. He wanted a Japanese girl but couldn't find one that suited his astringent demands – he wanted talent, beauty, style and charm. He had flown all over Europe searching for a girl to play the Japanese assassin and had arrived, finally, in Milan. Returning from there to London he picked up a copy of *London Life*, saw the cover, read the story and offered Yasuko the role. In the film she plays a small but potent

WAY US RIGHT

part. It is not just a matter of looking pretty (although she manages this quite naturally, as can be seen below) and simpering in the background, but of playing an active, aggressive role – as shown on the right – where assassin Yasuko struggles with actor Richard Johnson. But Johnson, being Bulldog Drummond, the hero, manages both Yasuko and chief villain Nigel Green.

INSIDE LONDON LIFE

Lady Fraser of Allander has opened the £2½ million holiday complex at Aviemore in the Highlands – it was the brainchild of her husband the late Lord Fraser. Novelist **Anthony Burgess** is having two of his books adapted for the screen – **Terry Southern** is doing *The Clockwork Orange* and **Thom Keyes** is working on *The Waiting Seed*. **Godfrey Winn** has left on a tour of Australia and the Far East. **Prof W Grimes,** the man who discovered the Temple of Mithras in the City, starts digging in the New Year on the site of the City church, St Mary Aldermanbury. **Sir Stanley Unwin** is 82. **Susannah York** has returned to London from film talks in America. Publisher **Bob Owen** and author **Gerald Bowman** were presented to the **Queen** at Guildhall recently, when she received a copy of *The Lamp and the Book*. Operatic tenor **James McCracken** and his wife **Sandra Warfield** due in London while McCracken sings in *Turandot* at Covent Garden, may well sing an impromptu song or two at the Carlton Tower on New Year's Eve. **Princess Marina** is going to a poetry and music evening at the Haymarket Theatre on 29 January in aid of the Italian Art and Archives Rescue Fund – it will be called *Italy, my Italy*. **Mr G C Silsby,** a British Petroleum technical expert from London, has been in Florence advising in the flood clean-up. **Norman Reid,** Director of the Tate Gallery, and his assistant **Ronald Alley,** have bought a pop painting by American **Roy Lichtenstein** – a huge cartoon of one plane shooting another down with a Batmanlike Wham!

AN anonymous donor looks like saving the Co-ordinating Committee for the Commemoration of 1066 from ending up in the red.

Lt-General Sir Reginald Denning, the Committee's chairman, says that the exhibition which closed at the Royal Academy just before Christmas has not been a financial success. "Financially it has not been very good," he says, "but the attendance, particularly of schoolchildren, has been most encouraging.

"Fortunately we were given a very generous contribution from a person who wishes to remain anonymous."

If the donation and the ticket sales do not cover the costs, the Committee will have to call upon some of the £12,000 which the Government put at its disposal for the countrywide celebration of the Battle. But there is not likely to be very much of it left by the time it comes to paying for the Royal Academy exhibition. Will the Government be called upon to produce more money when the final accounting is done? "I doubt it," says Sir Reginald.

Julie Felix is looking for someone to take over the lease of her King's Road flat. The lease runs until Christmas, 1970, and the rent is at present £6 a week. She is hoping that whoever takes the lease over will buy her furniture and fittings for £750.

David Piper, who is Director of the National Portrait Gallery, and an author as well, seems mildly amused by his occupation. He is soon to take over as Curator of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cam-

bridge, and said at a Christmas party: "I call myself a mausoleum manager." His latest books published by Collins are *The Companion Guide to London* and a new novel coming out in January called *Trial By Battle*.

Mr S Jackson of City auctioneers Hale & Son, expects to auction some four or five tons of ivory at Plantation House, Mincing Lane, on 31 January. Most of it, selling at about £125 a hundredweight, will end up on piano keyboards. The company also auctions rhino horns when it can get hold of them. "I understand that they are going for about 90s a pound in Mombasa at the moment," said Mr Jackson. "Most of that goes to Hong Kong, and Communist China buys it for its reputed aphrodisiac properties."

The National Dog Owners' Association says that this is the time of year when your dog is most likely to get snuffles. Apart from giving intimate details about how to minister to an ailing hound, the Association advises dog owners to keep a medicine chest for him. It should include antiseptic ointment, eye ointment, foot powder, sedatives and stomach powders.

The London Traverse Theatre Company's new musical *Pinkus* at the Jeanetta Cochrane Theatre was opening on Tuesday, 27 December, but the critics will not see the show until a week later, on 3 January. This is a policy which the theatre has been following recently – but they have never kept the critics waiting for a full week before. A spokesman said: "This is the furthest we have stretched it so far. It makes sense because everyone is tense and nervous at a first performance. The critics make them even more nervous."

Bernard Shaw's scheme to change the British alphabet is not dead yet. Mr Peter MacCarthy, a phonetics expert from Leeds University, is expected to let the Public Trustee, Mr Eric Eldridge, have the results shortly of an inquiry into how many people in the world use English, and how much time they would save by using Shaw's alphabet. Shaw asked in his will for the inquiry to be made. But he failed to say what should be done with the results of it.

Fifty-five London men, and probably some women, will assemble at the Washington Hotel on 20 February and mix cocktails. This is the London qualifying round for the British Cocktail Competition run by the United Kingdom Bartenders' Guild. Each one of them will have to provide a fresh recipe for a cocktail and an original name to go with it—then they will mix it for a panel of judges. The winner of the London round will receive a cheque for £100 and a place in the British Final at Bristol later in the New Year.

During the first week in January some 600 21-year-olds will go to three wine and cheese parties at Lambeth Town Hall – the tenth year these parties have been given. They serve the dual purpose of getting all the young people to a social gathering to celebrate their coming-of-age, and letting them see some of the work of the Council.

Gabriella Farinon, Italy's top girl TV announcer nicknamed "Angel Face," has been over here for a month visiting some of her family and learning English. "I have just had my second baby," she said at the School for Language Studies in Kensington,

"and that meant that I was given three months' holiday before I had it, and another three months after with pay. I have taken five months after and start back at work in a few days time." She was leaving London with her husband Italian film director Dore Modesti, spending a few days in Paris, and then returning to Rome.

Anyone who had any ideas of whipping up to the Scottish coast and spending the weekend hauling in hundreds of salmon in a drift net as soon as the ban comes off that form of fishing on 15 February, 1967, can forget the idea. The ban is to be extended for another two years. But they can still catch English and Welsh salmon in a drift net if they have a licence.

Photographer Martin Kay has devised a novel visiting card to make sure he is not forgotten as soon as he walks out of the door. It is a picture of model Kitty Gordon wearing a black dress with a zip-up front. On her chest, just above the zipper, is written **Martin Kay, Photographer,** and his telephone number.

According to a recent survey only one Londoner in four knows which borough he lives in, and only one in three knows what the letters GLC stand for. The GLC comes in for an even worse shock in the report — only two per cent know the name of their GLC member. The House of Commons does much better — 50 per cent can name their MP.

Left to right: David Spry, Christopher Lambert and Sue Deptford.

LONDON SKI-BOBBERS TACKLE THE WORLD ...

FOUR young Londoners make up the first official British ski-bob team ever to compete abroad. They go to the World Championships at Bad Hofgestein in Austria in February after a period of training and practice in the Cairngorms during January. The captain is a 22-year-old import/export executive David Spry, and the other members are Christopher Lambert, a television executive aged 24, James Cox aged 21, and the reserve, 20-year-old interior designer Sue Deptford. Their chances? "We're optimistic. We have to be," says David Spry, "although we've never entered officially for a competition before. The thing is that we will be picking up experience all the time for next year's championships. The main thing is we are trying to be as fit as possible." They were pictured at Simpson's Dry Ski School in Earls Court. Skiwear was by Simpson of Piccadilly.

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BACKGROUND

THE FACTS BEHIND THE NEWS

DRUGS

INTERNATIONAL control of the LSD drug could come within two months – less than a year since *London Life* reported on the hallucinatory effects of the drug. For several months, the United Nations Narcotics Commission has been discussing in Geneva moves to impose international restrictions on the drug. They are now ready to ask governments to act. There has been tremendous unanimity of thinking by member nations, including those in the Communist bloc, on restricting the use of LSD and similar substances to scientific and medical purposes, and their administration to be placed under "close and continuous" medical supervision.

Magazines and newspapers throughout the world ran stories on the drug following *London Life* disclosures last March. Governments independently looked at the subject. Then it was taken up by the UNO commission. There have been individual, complete bans by member nations, including Britain, where the drug is now available only on prescription for research.

The UNO commission's proposals now encompass this, and also add that full records of transactions should be kept by both manufacturers and distributors to enable governments to estimate realistically the amounts made and sold in the legitimate market. The commission would also like to see manufacturers licensed and distribution limited to authorised firms.

Throughout the latter part of the year, there was a series of meetings involving narcotics experts from abroad, and Scotland Yard and the Home Office. They discussed the wide-ranging problems of all kinds of drugs. A Scotland Yard spokesman tells *London Life*: "There have been a number of visits here recently by American and other nationals. They have had talks with our drugs squad, the Home Office and other bodies, exchanging detailed views and possible plans.

"Obviously, some policy may have changed, or been formulated as a result of these exchanges, but they must be considered primarily as exchanges of views."

DRINK

THE Scotch whisky industry has had one of its worst years. The latest increase of 2s in the £ on spirits was one more addition to the already lengthy list of strictures placed on whisky. For years Scotch has been our most consistently increasing export. But during the six months to 30 September exports slipped by 4½ per cent.

This is reckoned to be the first exports set-back most people in the industry can remember. Since the war, Scotch whisky has been our most consistent dollar-earning export – and, in fact, for several years the largest.

This drop was partially caused by the seamens' strike. But the principal factor has been the practice of foreign governments to follow Britain in constantly raising the duty.

Australia put a duty increase of 3s a bottle on recently, and sales to Australia have been virtually halved because of this. In recent years, the 100-plus main brands have been shipped abroad to over 160 different countries. But despite its obvious success, Scotch is not, to any degree, protected against competition from spirits produced abroad, even where the countries involved discriminate against imports of whisky.

The heavy duty levied on it puts competing foreign wines, for instance, in a strong position. The industry's view is that one more increase in the duty would be critical.

TELEVISION

THE shake-up of the London, Midland and Northern programme companies by the ITA will not take effect until July 1968. For months Fleet Street produced calculated guesses. Then Martin Jackson, the *Express* television reporter, broke the detailed story, as ITA were in process of deciding to release the facts at a Press conference this week.

A spokesman for the Authority told *London Life:* "It had been known the Authority was reconsidering the whole arrangement of independent television, and there were various guesses in the newspapers as to what we were going to do. We were intending to hold a Press conference, but somehow, we don't know how, the story got out."

The shake-up was first mooted three years ago. The present programme companies are operating under contracts which are due to expire in July 1968. When they end, new contracts will replace them. Said the ITA spokesman: "To give everybody time to get sorted out, we are aiming to decide who the new contracts will go to by next July. This means we will have to announce readiness to accept offers fairly early in the new year."

In London, programme contracts will still be shared by two companies. One firm will get four days, the other three. At the moment, Associated Television runs Saturday and Sunday programmes, and Rediffusion operates on weekdays.

PRISONS

GREATEST interest in the Mountbatten inquiry into prison security has been shown, not unnaturally, by the Prison Officers' Association – the trade union for the men who staff Britain's jails. There are over 10,000 members in the association.

The association's major – and perennial – complaint is understaffing, which has also been a key consideration for Lord Mountbatten and his colleagues. "We need at least another thousand officers," says association secretary Mr Fred Castell. "This would help the situation, and enable the service to get down effectively to a five day week.

"It may be that the Mountbatten inquiry will place additional burdens on the service, from the staffing point of view, through need for increased security."

This staff shortage is a recurring theme. It means officers have to work longer hours and excessive overtime, lose rest periods, and are faced with more night work.

There is also considerable support for the association over wages and salaries. Basic grade officers, on joining the service, get £14 a week, rising to £19 8s after nine years' service. They have free quarters, or rent allowance in lieu, up to a maximum of £3 7s 6d a week, plus free uniform or clothing allowance in lieu.

HOUSING

SHELTER, the national campaign launched this month on behalf of Britain's homeless, is off to a flying start in terms of results and advance planning. Already, they announce with justifiable pride, 50 families are certain to be housed . . . and this materialised in their first week of operation. Response to the initial appeal was greater than expected, and they say, "Although it is true that the purchase and conversion of houses must take time it is good to know that already there are funds that will house so many."

Shelter then poses the question: "How soon before it will be 500 families?" So widespread has the response been that Shelter are to form groups all over the country, to raise money.

Shelter's chairman, the Rev Bruce Kenrick, says in a message: "Already Shelter is becoming a movement of people from every walk of life who know that the housing problem is a national emergency, that what is needed is a rescue operation, and that they can really help."

The campaign's latest newsletter says: "A friend of Shelter has made it possible to mail 25,000 clergy and ministers expressing the hope that they may be able to take up a special offering for the homeless. If 10 per cent respond and each offering averages £10, this will mean £25,000 for the homeless. With local authority loans and grants, each gift pound does the work of six. So this would enable housing associations to buy £150,000-worth of property."

ARTHUR ASKEY STILL SHOWING THE YOUNG ONES HOW TO KEEP UP

WITH verve and precision, Arthur Askey and Roy Castle rehearse a song-and-dance routine for their pantomime *Babes in the Wood* at the Wimbledon Theatre (running until mid-February). Paradoxically, 66-year-old Arthur Askey seems to be setting the pace for his much younger partner Roy Castle. Arthur radiates confidence and experience, while Roy displays anxiety and concentration.

"In the pantomime, we both play the parts of idiots," said Roy. "But I'm just a simple idiot and he's the organising idiot."

Arthur plays the role of Martha the nursemaid, who looks after the two babes in the Sheriff of Nottingham's castle while King Arthur is away in the wars. Roy features as Simple Simon, the Sheriff's lackey. In this sequence, they mime and sing the *Ballad of Richmond Hill*, where Martha recounts her long-past courtship with the young man of her dreams.

Asked how he felt about being the older lead, Arthur said: "Roy is no new fellow, of course, but at my age I can put a lot of my past experience into the act. We're plodding through nicely."

Of the pantomime, he added, "For an out of West End production, I think it's very successful. You can always smell them out while you're rehearsing, and all the portents of this one are encouraging."

HOW TO GET A DUCKING AT THE BOAT SHOW

All the big London shows are getting bigger this year, and the *Daily Express* International Boat Show which opens at Earls Court on Wednesday 4 January is much bigger than ever before – reflecting the ever-increasing interest in things nautical.

The central feature of the show this year is Britain's Waterways, depicted in an exhibition on a man-made pool, and a reconstruction of a country village.

Each day there will be fashion displays on the pool and some amazing angling demonstrations with girls as fish.

English Rose III, the boat that was rowed across the Atlantic, will be there, as will a two-man miniscaphe submarine, and the first do-it-yourself hovercraft – the Airrider.

Amateur sailors can sort out some of their problems on the Guide Yourself Boating stand, and Uffa Fox will be at the show to answer any particularly thorny queries.

The Royal Navy will exhibit an 18ft. long model of their last sailing ship afloat, the *Foudroyant*, which has been in service for 150 years – they are appealing for money to preserve it.

If you want a practical problem and do not mind risking a ducking, the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides will have just the thing. They will run do-it-yourself raft-making competitions. You will collect a team, build a raft and then sail it across the pool. First raft across wins. Faulty construction should result in a ducking.

British Petroleum are running a cinema with shows every hour on the hour where the main attraction should be the film of the 1966 Powerboat Race.

Luckiest visitors of all will be the winners of the Boat Show Competition – the first prize is a £5,000 craft.

The Show will be open from Wednesday, 4 January, to Saturday, 14 January, from 10 am to 9 pm, except on Sunday, 8 January. On the first day, admission will be £1 for adults and 10s for children under 14. On subsequent days it will be 5s for adults and 2s for children.

ROBIN DOUGLAS HOME

. . . The columnist who is often controversial, often amusing . . . always intensely readable

THE Rev. Michael Meech, Minister of St Andrew's Church Manchester, suggested at a conference on drinking and driving that "Eight brewers' beatitudes" should be compulsorily published alongside any brewers' advertisements at this time of the year. The two examples of his beatitudes I read were strong stuff, and one was "Blessed are they that celebrate Christmas with drinks all round in the office, for they shall go out and commit murder with the car and call it an accident."

I applaud the Reverend's sentiments wholeheartedly, so I hope he will forgive me for suggesting a few rather more frivolous beatitudes.

Blessed be the big nose of Charles de Gaulle, for it has given all mothers a ready answer to the inevitable but previously tricky question: "Mummy, what does God look like?"

Blessed be Mia Farrow for she has proved that a chick in the pad is worth two dozen in the offing.

Blessed are they who believe in 3 per cent mortgages.

Blessed be Walter Bagehot, for without him Norman St John Stevas, MP, would find it hard to speak all right in public.

Blessed be Cliff Richard for he shall throw Holy Light unto the Shadows.

The troops

Blessed are they who believe 55,000 British troops are still needed in Germany, and that the Germans will pay for them being there.

Blessed are they who invented the mini-skirt, for they shall allow the subtly varying contours of the upper female leg to be regularly appreciated for free and shall inspire a new version of Frank Loesser's hit song, *Your Thighs are the Thighs of a Woman in Love.*

Blessed be Lyndon B Johnson, for he shall diminish the sin of telling an untruth into the Mere Peccadillo of causing a credibility gap.

Blessed are they who still think that LSD stands for pounds, shillings and pence for they shall shortly be extinct.

Blessed are the Bank of England and the Rock of Gibraltar, for they shall prove that their proverbial safety is, like everything else, founded on a handful of dust.

Blessed are they who have been quipping recently "What's the point of going decimal?" for they shall soon all be quietly dead.

Blessed are Twiggy and Justine, for they shall prove that boys will not always be boys.

Comedy duo

Blessed are Harold Macmillan and Lord Egremont for they shall emerge as the most promising comedy script-writing duo since Ray Galton and Alan Simpson.

Blessed are the topless waitresses, for they shall give new meaning to the post-prandial statement "I feel fit to bust."

Blessed are the Gnomes of Zurich, for they shall continue to support the £ sterling, in spite of the vicious libels on their personal freshness by the Earl of Arran.

Blessed be Nobby Stiles, for he shall prove short-sightedness and no front teeth will be the new hallmarks of great athletic prowess.

Blessed are the crew of HMS *Tiger* for they shall stick manfully, lured by top tails at No 10, to the pre-stabiliser tradition of the Royal Navy in not rocking the boat.

Blessed are the schoolmasters of Gordonstoun, for they shall successfully educate the Heir Apparent to the Throne, for he has shown himself already aware of today's trend where words mean the opposite to what they say . . . for he has picked a beat group to play at his Christmas party called the Quiet Five.

Blessed are they who believe that George Brown's prayer to God, to bless Mr Gromyko, will be answered for they will be nuts.

Blessed be Jackie, Bobby and Teddy Kennedy, for they shall show the publicity boys *really* how to do it.

Blessed be U Thant, for he shall continue to keep the U in UNO . . . the U standing for Useless.

Blessed are the Northumberland landlords, for they shall probably catch foot and mouth disease.

Blessed are the children of Francis Chichester, for they shall truthfully claim that their old man is always completely at sea.

Blessed are the ex-Dartmoor convicts, for they shall help the export drive by hiring themselves out to American tourists as highly trained valets.

Blessed are the seven husbands of Barbara Hutton, for they shall form a unique kind of queue at Woolworths.

Both ways

Blessed are the Chinese steel manufacturers, for they shall flog their wares, through Singapore, to the Americans in South Vietnam, who will use the steel to build bases for their bombers who will attack the North Vietnamese, who will retalitate with anti-aircraft guns fixed on bases made with steel supplied by those same Chinese manufacturers.

Finally, blessed be Brian Blessed for he shall fondly imagine that the Three Musketeers' false moustache and ringlets disguise his real identity as PC Fancy Smith of *Z-Cars.*

Cossack makes crazy mixed up drinks

Cossack VODKA breathtakingly pure

Cossack may look innocent enough. But it's made with one hundred per cent pure spirit. People have been known to gasp with excitement when they drink it!

Cossack co-habits gaily with tomato juice, orange juice, lemonade, ginger beer, tonic, coke and so on.

And if you think you need a visa to drink Cossack and American Dry, we've got news for you.*

This particular vodka is filtered through charcoal until it's so pure, it's even clearer than the glass you drink it from.

It leaves your breath clean, your head clear.

Always drop a block or two of ice into your Cossack-and-Something.

Apart from that, there aren't any rules for drinking Cossack. That's the nice thing about it.

Ready?

***Cossack and American Dry.** A measure of Cossack. Lots of ice. Top up with American Dry Ginger.

YES, 1966 WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR

. . . AND FOR

MAY: **Mrs Jackie Kennedy** (above), with a copy of *London Life*, at London Airport. AUGUST: **Frank Sinatra** (right) and his wife **Mia** at their London hotel. SEPTEMBER: **Paul McCartney's** house (below) in St John's Wood, picketed by girl fans.

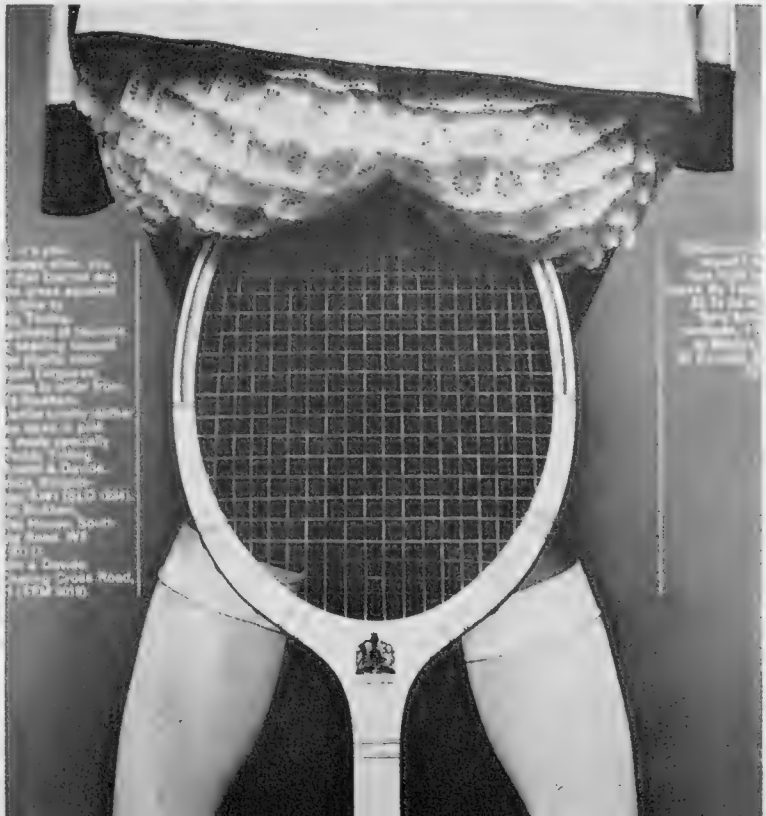
IT was, wasn't it? Such a good year. In every field, new personalities emerged to attain the rewards of instant success. The World Cup win reflected Britain's 1966 image.

It was the year when the word "swinging" (justifiably to some!) prefixed Bunny-infested London, and the rest of the world looked to the capital for a lead in virtually everything. It was too, a good, a vintage year, for *London Life*, which, in every direction, strove to fulfil its task of reflecting all aspects of life in the city. When Jackie Kennedy departed from London Airport with *London Life* under her arm, we knew we had arrived.

In January, the year augured well for Girls Like Lucy Barlett, the epitome at that time of youth, talent, vitality, creativity. Lucy was the forerunner of

PICTURES TOO

SEPTEMBER: **Jean Shrimpton** (right), tired after working on her first film.
JUNE: **Teddy Tinling** designed these frills (below) in a tennis fashion feature.



that passing parade of girls we have mentioned throughout the year.

February found us looking inside The Friendship Industry, the series of clubs, associations and societies that thrive in London, and are focal points for the lost and the lonely. And Charlotte Bingham began a perceptive and penetrating series on Loving – London Style, which dealt with every facet of the romantic relationship between man and woman in London.

In the same month, we revealed the methods of private detectives, giving an ever-increasing readership insight into a powerful, highly operative segment of the population. We began the month of March by relating What London Girls Do For Money, an intriguing and comprehensive series on unusual and interesting jobs undertaken by girls coming to live here.

March was also the period when *London Life* particularly fulfilled its Press role as guardian of the public interest. Factually, in detail, and without sensation, we told the story of the *LSD* hallucinatory drug. We told how, potentially, it could become a social peril. We described how widespread it was becoming throughout every stratum of London society. Our disclosures led to a campaign which succeeded when Parliament introduced legislation againt the drug. Newspapers and magazines throughout the world took up the story. Now the drug is being investigated by the United Nations.

April was a lightsome month. We took a close-up look at London's darling, Julie Christie. And the ancient Art of Drag feature discussed the talent of the female impersonators.

Funny Girl opened in London on 13 April, and the highly individual talent of Barbra Streisand was brilliantly examined in our pages.

The Playgirl Club was introduced to readers in the middle of May. We focused on six lovely and talented women-about-town.

In June, comedian Allan Sherman helped us ex-

Continued overleaf

amine the validity of the Swinging London legend.

The following week, as a curtain-raiser for the Wimbledon championships, our comprehensive fashion service showed the best – and latest – women's wear for tennis.

On 23 July, Brian Epstein, impresario and Beatlemaker, gave a rare interview as part of our assessment of himself, and the cross-roads stage of his career.

Then, on 30 July, we recorded something of a milestone in London nightlife, the opening of Sibylla's, and the story of the girl behind it. Along came August, and Cowes Week, and again, *London Life's* fashion service advised on what to wear when yachting – borrowing a Royal Navy submarine in the process, and making the rest of Fleet Street wonder how we did it.

Seven days later, we carried the brilliant exclusive first pictures of Frank Sinatra and his new bride, Mia Farrow.

September was Shrimpton's month. We portrayed her, in pictures and words, as she has never been known before. The brilliant and unusual picture of her on these pages was taken while she was filming *Privilege.*

It was also a month, though, in which *London Life* devoted a cover story to the shooting of the three policemen, with picture coverage of the funeral, and an analysis of crime in the capital.

Asher and Bardot launched October for us. Half-way through the month, we took an interesting look at London couples. We were looking *for* couples a week later – cool couples, to compete for a fortnight's holiday in Hawaii.

November was for the young. We reappraised swinging London. Then came a girl called Ro, whose road to the top, as a model, we charted. And Prince Charles was a cover story on his 18th birthday.

December, naturally, has been Christmas and New Year, and planning for '67. We expect this to be like 1966 . . . a very good year.

A bishop probes gambling . . . a in prayer . . . pictures that tell of

woman bowed
London 1966

AUGUST: **The Bishop of Southwark** (above) leaves a gaming club during a personal investigation of London's gambling.

JULY: A few among the thousands (left) who flocked to Earls Court to hear **Billy Graham** when he came to London.

SEPTEMBER: The funeral (right) of the three shot London policemen, when *London Life* wrote of the misery and menace of Gunman's London.

JAM TOMORROW

weekly traffic service

All the major repair operations on the M1 have now been completed, and for a while, at least, traffic flow will be unimpeded. There are, however, a few minor adjustments to be made on the hard shoulder and central reservation of the motorway, which will involve the occasional closure of single lanes. The trouble spots will occur at the junctions of **A50/A508** and **M45/A428** on the northbound carriageway and **A428/M45** on the southbound carriageway. The **M4** between the **Chiswick Flyover** and the **London Airport Interchange** is still affected by the erection of lamp columns on its central reservation. The current works will necessitate the closure of the westbound fast lane in quarter-mile stretches.

Traffic lights are being installed on the **A308** (Staines to London), at Kingston-upon-Thames. This, coupled with current attempts at improving the road surface in the same area, is causing moderate delays.

Moving inwards towards London, three roads in SE1 – **Westminster Bridge Road, York Road** and **Lambeth Palace Road** – have restricted flow because of the construction of a subway. **Tennison Road,** in SE25, has been completely closed to traffic because of bridge reconstruction. Road subsidence on **Clifford Avenue** (South Circular) in SW14, between **Lower Richmond Road** and **Somerton Avenue,** has led to the diversion of northbound traffic while the necessary repairs are carried out.

North of the river, the scene is more cluttered. **Harrow Road,** W2, between **Bishops Bridge Road** and **Ranelagh Bridge,** is undergoing surface repairs, and all westbound traffic has been diverted; northbound traffic has been diverted from **Highbury Grove,** between **St Paul's Road** and **Grosvenor Avenue,** because of bridge works. Sewer works are holding up traffic in **Kingsland Road,** E2, between **Orsman Road** and **Old Street;** the construction of a roundabout at the junction of the **North Circular** with **Chingford Road,** E17, is currently causing delays.

DAVID WYNNE-MORGAN

ONE of the big mysteries of the West End this week is when the building of the new Berkeley Hotel on the corner of Knightsbridge and Wilton Place will begin. This year has already seen extensive changes at the Berkeley Hotel on its present site in Piccadilly. These have completely altered the hotel's character.

For more than 100 years it has been one of the favourite meeting places of London society and many a romance has begun to the dance music in the restaurant. Businessmen have rubbed shoulders with debs and their mums in the intimate Buttery for more time than anyone alive today can remember.

Music stops

Today there is no longer music in the restaurant, while the Buttery Bar has closed its doors for the last time. From the moment that the intention to build a new Berkeley Hotel in Knightsbridge was announced, the heart of the present hotel seemed to beat more slowly.

Now, it seems, the delay over the building of the new hotel is likely to be far longer than envisaged. It was two years ago that the first planning permission was sought from what was then the London County Council. This was granted and the detailed plan went before the Westminster City Council and was approved in October 1965. The final outstanding permission for office development, which is part of the scheme, came in October this year.

Everything appeared to be through, but still no definite date for the start of the building has been given. I tried to talk to the architect, Brian O'Rorke, who refused to come to the telephone to discuss the starting date with me, but sent a message *via* one of his colleagues that: "There are no plans at the moment."

Mr Hugh Wontner, the chairman of the company which also owns the Savoy and the Connaught, was out of town and unavailable for comment. I understand, however, that several of the sitting tenants in the property standing on the site at present have quite a large part of their leases still to run, and the hotel group are not prepared to be held to ransom.

Squeeze beater

I received in my post this week a completely anonymous contribution to show businessmen how to beat the squeeze by not only increasing efficiency and productivity, but also by solving their financial problems. I pass it on free of charge, not only to help harassed businessmen, but also out of patriotism, in the public interest. It is, in fact, a new calendar *(illustrated below)* which, like all innovations from the spinning-jenny onwards, is likely at the outset to be resisted. Nothing can stop the march of progress, and I am sure that, before long, it will entirely supersede the conventional one that is in use at the moment.

CALENDAR FOR BUSINESS MEN

GEN	FRI	FRI	THU	WED	TUE	MON
8	7	6	5	4	3	2
16	15	14	13	12	11	9
23	22	21	20	19	18	17
31	30	29	28	27	26	24
38	37	36	35	34	33	32

Just a calendar? Look again. It's not so familiar as it seems. In fact it has some decidedly eerie features, which you won't recognise until you read David Wynne-Morgan's explanation.

Pre-delivery

The calendar has many advantages, as follows:

1. Every job is a rush. Every one wants his order delivered yesterday. With this calendar customers can order on the 7th and have delivery on the 3rd.

2. All customers want their jobs on Friday – so there are two Fridays in each week.

3. There are seven extra days at the end of the month for those end-of-the-month rushes.

4. There are no "firsts of the month," so bills will not therefore have to be paid.

5. There are no bothersome non-productive Saturdays and Sundays.

6. There is a new day each week – general day. On this day orders may be cancelled, copy changes made and other matters reopened. For instance, a copy change made on the 8th may reach you on the 5th, but you may make the change even though the goods were shipped on the 6th. Everybody will be happy and we will have an ulcer-free industry.

So go to it, businessmen. A Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all.

Christmas footnote: A small boy at a nearby kindergarten was asked to describe the nativity scene in Bethlehem. He thought for a moment and then said: "In the middle of the night Mary had a baby that was called Joseph" (long pause). "No, wait a minute, Jesus!"

DICK LESTER . . . PLAYING IT COOL

THE bloke who can play the piano is always popular at parties – even when Confrey Phillips is there with his band. And that's what happened at Twickenham film studios during the annual Christmas party. Among the film stars, producers and directors there, was Dick Lester, balding whizzkid of the groovy film, the man who tamed the Beatles into something like coherent narrative. He is no mean hand with the ivories himself and during the making of the film *Help* he grew rather attached to a particular piano. He used to sit down and play it, strum or improvise whenever there was the odd moment. Then he started trying to persuade the studios to let him have the instrument – for himself. There was a little delay, a few hums and ha's. But eventually agreement was reached. And so Dick Lester bought a piano. Here he plays it for the last time in its location at the studios. It was soon taken away to the Lester pad where, no doubt, he soothes his battered nerves after a hard day's filming.

STEP OUT OF THE CROWD

GO 'ANDES' CRUISING IN 1967

Catering for those who require really first-class comfort—'ANDES' (27,000 tons, air-conditioned, stabilised) carries less than 500 passengers, all first-class. Every cabin has private facilities. Spacious sports-decks. Dining saloon seating all passengers at one sitting, lounges, cinema, numerous bars, swimming pool, Turkish baths, excellent cuisine. Early booking is advised.

CRUISE

No. Date from Southampton

1. MAR 16—APR 10. 25 days. Teneriffe, St. Kitts, Antigua Barbados, Madeira. From **£190** per person

2. APR 11—MAY 6. 25 days. Las Palmas, Tobago, St. Vincent, (B.W.I), Barbados, Madeira. From **£190** per person

3. JUNE 5—27. 22 days. Alicante, Venice, Rhodes, Malta, Lisbon. From **£165** per person

4. JUNE 28—JULY 19. 21 days. Glengarift, Bergen, Ytterdal, Merok, Trondheim, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Amsterdam. From **£145** per person

5. JULY 21—AUG 11. 21 days. Lisbon, Palma (Majorca), Rhodes, Naples, Almeria. From **£160** per person

6. AUG 12—SEPT 2. 21 days. Madeira, Palermo, Dubrovnik, Kotor, Villefranche Cadiz. Accommodation available from **£265** per person

7. SEPT 4—26. 22 days. Barcelona, Kos (Greek Island), Istanbul, Ajaccio, Lisbon. From **£165** per person

8. SEPT 27—OCT 18. 21 days. Vigo, Tripoli, Athens, Malta. Madeira. From **£145** per person

9. OCT 20—NOV 14. 25 days. Madeira, Grenada. Barbados, Martinique, Las Palmas. From **£170** per person

10. NOV 15—DEC 10. 35 days. Barbados, St. Thomas (V.I.), Antigua, Madeira. From **£170** per person

CHRISTMAS

DEC 20—JAN 7. 18 days. Gibraltar, Freetown, Teneriffe. From **£135** per person

Apply to LOCAL AGENTS or ROYAL MAIL LINES CRUISING DEPARTMENT L.L.

London: America House, Cockspur Street, S.W.1 **(TRA 6271);** Birmingham: 2 Calthorpe Road, Five Ways 15 **(EDG 3821);** Glasgow: 95 Bothwell Street, C.2 **(CEN 0925/9);** Liverpool: Pacific Bldg., James St. 2 **(CEN 9251);** Manchester: 1/3 Clarence Street, Albert Square, 2 **(CEN 4302)**

Angela Ince

WHEN you get down to it, making New Year Resolutions is a pretty pointless activity anyway. If we had all kept the resolutions we made last year, we wouldn't need to make any this year, since, presumably, we would have spent 1966 becoming perfect citizens in every way. Countless *vol-au-vents* would have stayed uneaten, and we'd all be slim and lithe; we would have cut down our smoking by half, and given up coughing (and the resulting loss of revenue would have made Mr Callaghan resolve to put 2s more on the income-tax); we would have walked to work at least three times a week, leaving our cars heaven knows where, and we would have halted our pointless but satisfying practice of taking out our ill-temper on inanimate objects.

Moral glow

However, making these resolutions is a pleasing activity for the majority of us, since it gives us a complacent moral glow without the irritating necessity of actually changing our ways – among the resolutions I for one have no intention of keeping in 1967 are these:

1. I resolve, this year, to have a Kind Word for everyone and a Pleasant Smile for all. Unfortunately, there are already several people I am planning to be unkind to as soon as the festive season of goodwill is safely back with the witchballs and the tinsel in the cupboard under the stairs. Among those who are scheduled to receive an unkind word and an unpleasant smile from me are: the paperboy who thrust a brusquely worded request for a Christmas box through our letterbox (normally he stands well back on the other side of the street and aims our newspapers casually in the direction of our front steps); that woman who is even now out bargain-hunting for a tall hat with feathers at the side which she plans to reserve for those occasions when she is sitting in front of me at the cinema; and the fool who sent us a Christmas card postmarked Crowborough and wrote inside, "We must get together as soon as the holidays are over," without adding his or her name and address.

The washing

2. I resolve that in future I will always do the washing on Mondays and the ironing on Tuesdays like that tiresome girl in the folk-song (though these days the song could well go, "Twas on a Monday morning that I discovered my washing machine wasn't working. Twas on a Tuesday morning that I rang the service department, and Twas on a Wednesday morning some weeks later that somebody actually called to mend it"). I'd like to think that I will carry this one out, but it is more than likely that I will stick to my old, well-loved method of waiting till the laundry basket is full, taking out the top four objects, complacently throwing them into the washing machine, and sitting back murmuring, "There's a good job done."

3. I will stand up for my rights when shopping, instead of quailing like a poltroon in the face of rudeness, delay and dirty hands. The only time I tried this out in 1966 was over a matter of short change, and it wasn't until I had two indignant shop assistants, the manager and a crowd of interested though scornful shoppers round me that I discovered that not only was my change right, but among the half-crowns I had handed over was a Greek coin of indeterminate value. I reckon I'll stick with the poltroons – it's less embarrassing.

4. When I offer to give someone a lift in my car, I will try to remember where I left it, instead of leading them on long, wet safaris round remote parts of Bloomsbury, saying "I know it's round here somewhere, I remember that dairy," while they crossly wish they had taken that taxi they saw ten minutes ago.

5. I will try not to air my views at dinner parties on subjects about which I know little or nothing, even though all those about me are doing just that. In theory this means that I will stay silent while everybody else is gabbling about Rhodesia, Vietnam, George Brown, the theory and practice of bloodstock breeding, why comprehensive schools are going to ruin this country in five years, what is wrong with the Health Service, and the political acumen of the first Lord Cecil. In practice my next-door neighbours won't be able to get a word in edgeways.

6. I would like to think I will sew every button back on my husband's shirt as soon as it falls off. But a personal time and motion study has convinced me that it is simpler in the long run, to wait until the laundry has taken them all off (except, of course, that one at the top which they like for their own inscrutable reasons to break neatly in two leaving half on).

Lost patience

7. I will finish every book I start, and that goes for *Ship of Fools*, George Eliot's *Middlemarch* (a book of almost intolerable length, with whose heroine I lost patience around page four) and *A Layman's Guide to Simple Philosophy*, which left me feeling unphilosophic though simple.

8. I will give up smoking. Actually I *won't* give up smoking, for the rather despicable reason that I don't want to.

And that about wraps up my resolutions. Anyone for *vol-au-vents?*

TOMMY COOPER, MISSING ANOTHER TRICK

He's the conjurer with the magic touch for building a career on mistakes . . . The comedian who is always certain to miss the trick. And get the laughs. And here is Tommy Cooper right in form. Missing the trick – and Cilla Black – to Bruce Forsyth. They were sharing a table at ABC Television's reception at the River Club. This was television's chance to talk shop. For the all-star cast to swap gossip, news of new shows . . .

Twiggy was there, looking like a schoolgirlish, wide-eyed, 14-carat success story.

Joanne Dainton – she's been in *The Human Jungle*, Armchair Theatre and *Intrigue* – was still breathless from her rehearsals for the two-hour television marathon *Dial M for Murder*. Directors Howard Thomas, Brian Tesler and Robert Norris. And scriptwriters Dick Hills and Sid Green.

But it was Tommy Cooper who stole the show. If it hadn't been for that missed trick, he might have stolen the girl, too . . .

Picture by Colin Smith

PUTTING STEAM BEHIND THE ART FILM

There are four types of cinema: the big West End, or City central place, showing big prestige films with booked seats and an interval; the comfortable basic circuit-release cinema where you pays your money and sees your film; the grotty flea-pit where you can see, haphazardly, either a particularly insalubrious X-film or a delicate René Clair; and the art cinema showing art films – that is, those films that treat the cinema as a valid means of artistic expession as opposed to a vehicle for straightforward entertainment.

At various times and in various places there have been attempts to establish art cinemas more widely about the place, and now a new company has been formed which specifically intends to promote the interests of the film which has above-average artistic interest and appeal. It is called Contemporary Cinemas Ltd, and will be directed by Charles Cooper who is managing director of Contemporary Films Ltd; by James Quinn, a former director of the British Film Institute; and by Ralph Stevenson, a writer on the cinema with special interest in the short film.

The general manager will be John Stapleton, who has been for 14 years Festivals Representative for the British Film Producers' Association. In this capacity he has attended all the major international film festivals held over this period.

The new company opens its first cinema this week (on 1 January). It is the Paris-Pullman in Drayton Gardens, already a well-established first-run cinema. Under the auspices of the new company there are plans for modernisation and expansion, and premises adjoining the cinema are to be adapted as a bar and to serve light refreshments.

GODFREY ARGENT

CONTINUING HIS PICTORIAL SERIES ON THE YOUNG ONES

For his third subject in a *London Life* gallery of the latest and most youthful people to make the scene, Royal photographer Godfrey Argent chooses a trainee publisher, whose views, as expressed to MICHAEL VESTEY in an interview, show a highly individual and self-aware generation in the making.

WILLIAM BLOOM'S father is a Jewish-born psychiatrist; his mother an American-born writer who is Roman Catholic. The procreative result makes William an English-born agnostic who wants to be a publisher.

William is 18 years old, and lives with his parents in a tall, terraced house in Seymour Place, Marylebone. He says: "The advantage of parents having those backgrounds is that I can knock the Jews and Roman Catholics without being called prejudiced. Not that my parents are particularly religious anyway."

Educated at St Paul's School, William works as personal assistant to Leslie Frewin, the publisher – learning the business he hopes soon to revolutionise when he knows enough.

He took the job after a brief spell in Paris working for a chemical firm. After living on the proceeds of blackjack at a London club, he felt it was time he earned regular money as "my parents felt there was pocket money and pocket money – and I didn't like the idea of living off them, anyway."

Dress-sense

William is tall, fair-haired with hazel eyes and grinning face; he talks quickly but in monotone. He is smartly dressed but not snappy, and he puts his dress-sense down to his student girl-friend's influence.

William could be a medical student by now; his parents hoped he would choose that career. "Being brought up in a medical house made me think on those lines, and I had two places promised at St Mary's Hospital and Middlesex Hospital schools. I wanted to study medicine, and I still have pangs. But because I like selling ideas, and at the same time enjoy literature, I went for publishing instead. I think it was a wise decision."

He added: "I like money and want money, but I also like books. Publishing is my way of appeasing both sides. I am happy training in this job, if it means I can fulfil my ambition of owning a publishing firm one day, and, of course, have a few best sellers to my name."

He is sad to know that books are not as widely read in this country as they should be. "It's a great shame that out of a population of 50 million, if you sell 40,000 books it makes a big readership.

"Well, there is this conservative view towards books, which runs through publishing, too. It would be nice if you could change the public's attitude. Books are good entertainment, like television, but more satisfying."

Dashing cook

Confessing to talking like a teenage Gareth Powell, William moved on to his interests. He likes: writing, cooking, dancing and the cinema.

In cooking, he finds adventure in mixing opposites. He told me, with the air of a man guarding a close secret: "If you cook steak in mushroom soup it is marvellous – or chops in tomato soup.

"I also like bananas cooked in mushroom soup to serve up as a sauce on steak. Is it original? Yes, I think so, although I do believe someone else is using the combinations. I didn't pinch it, if that's what you mean."

His mother, Freddie Bloom, often broadcasts on *Woman's Hour;* and William has followed suit with two solemn broadcasts on sex and swinging London.

"I gave one talk saying that although it may be great fun, promiscuity ruins the real meaning of sex. Actually, I'm not sure I mean it, but perhaps I did at the time. Afterwards I got five proposals of marriage from girls listening in."

He regards modern-day parents with respect, but adds: "Many parents, though, have too little acceptance of their children's character in their own right. They often forget their offspring is a human being, and not just something they have produced.

The teenagers

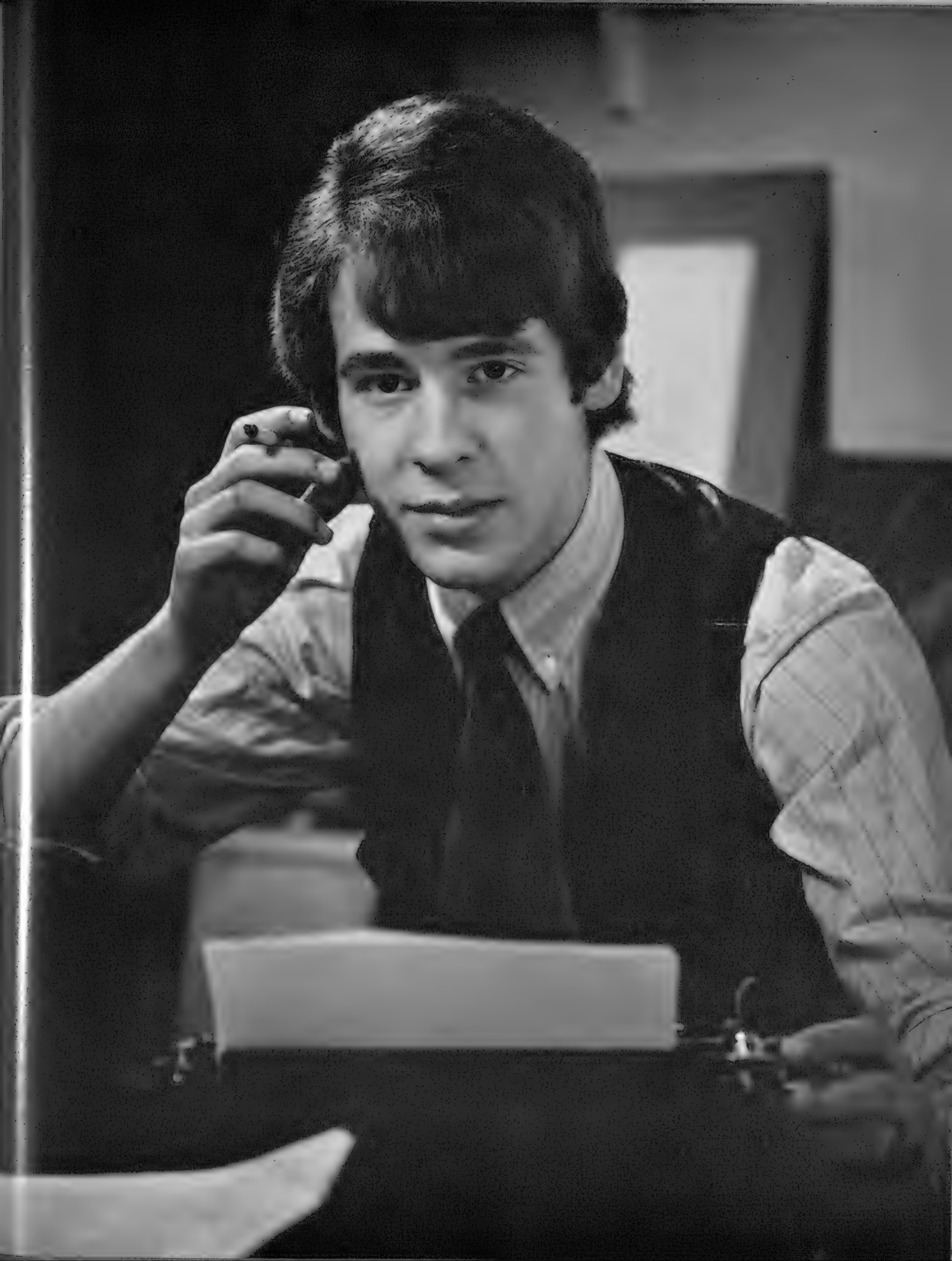
"As for my own generation: I think they are fun, except when they take things too seriously. Their image tends to become the dominant thing – what they look like becomes more important than what they think."

William has shrewdly refrained from growing long hair, despite a wish to do so. "It would antagonise too many people, which would be bad for business."

His idea of a pleasant evening is "sitting with four or five people I know and like, just chatting. Night clubbing is too expensive, although I enjoy it."

William's godfather is Maurice Orbach, Labour MP for Stockport South. Not politically intense, he has dabbled by joining the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and canvassing for Mr Orbach. At one time he was anti-Royalty, but since then his opinions have mellowed.

"I used to think royalty was a waste of time and money, but not any more. I'm going through a 'Stop knocking Britain' phase at the moment. The Royal Family work as good ambassadors, and certainly a good tourist attraction – they must be our strongest invisible exports."



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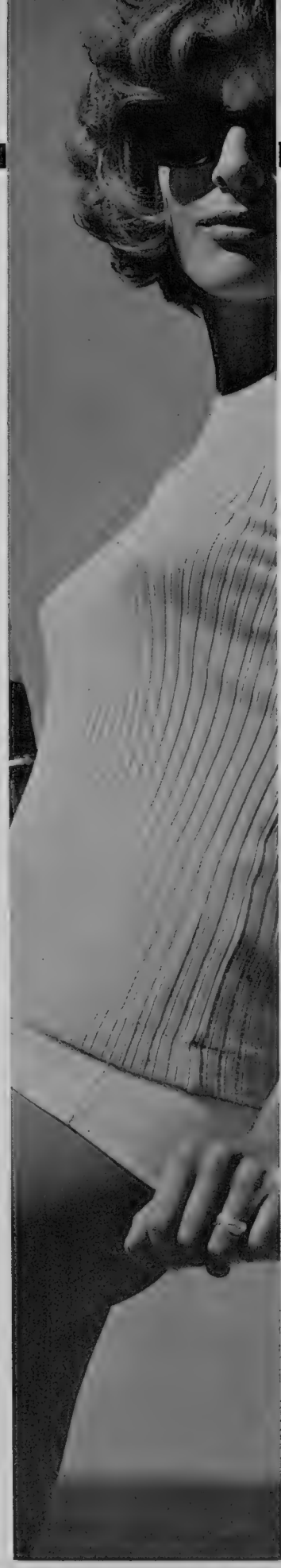

Islands where you pay in sterling

THE restrictions on travel allowances do not, of course, apply to countries in the sterling area and the islands like Cyprus and Malta and far-away Bermuda, "The Sterling Islands," are preparing for a real tourist bonanza.

CYPRUS

Last year the island was hardly mentioned in the travel brochures. This year upwards of 35,000 visitors from this country are expected to spend their holidays here.

Where to Stay: For highlife – Famagusta. This is really two towns – one part the old quarter, and nearby the district of Varosha where all the new hotels have sprung up.

For tranquillity and "getting - away - from - it - all" there are the villages of Kyrenia and Paphos.

Cost of Living: Hotels are still on the cheap side – a first-class hotel costs from £2 10s a day full board. There are also many apartments and flats that can be rented – a three bedroom house costs between £6 and £7 per week. Or you can tour the country, staying in the monasteries which are scattered all over the island – paying 2s a night for your "cell."

You pay about 15s for a really good three-course meal and drinks like wine (2s a bottle) and Cyprus brandy (huge tot for 2s) are ridiculously cheap.

Package Tours: WINGS offer 15-day holidays in Kyrenia hotels from £112 and in Famagusta from £123.
BEA are offering in their Silver Wing Brochure, holidays at prices ranging from £101 for one week to £116 for a two-week stay. Cheapest of all package-tour holidays in '67 offered by LORD BROS – £90 for two weeks at the Dome and £99 for two weeks at the Grecian.

How to Get There: Fly by Olympic or BEA. Night tourist —£85.

MALTA

Island of legend and history – plus sandy beaches, "off-the-rocks" swimming and visits to neighbouring islands.

Where to Stay: For highlife the main resort of Sliema or St Juliens. To get-away-from-it-all – the island of Comino, a "mini-island" two miles away from the mainland.

Cost of Living: Hotel prices range from £2 upwards, full board. A good three course meal costs about 17s 6d, whisky is about 2s 6d a double measure, cigarettes 2s upwards for 20, local wine from 1s a bottle. A glass of beer costs 1s and a cup of coffee about 5d.

Package Tours: Exchange Travel Agency specialise in holidays to Malta. Of particular interest are their flats. Four sharing an apartment can work out as little as £40 each, including return air fare.

How to Get There: By BEA. High season rates are £38 12s mid-week night tourist flight; £43 16s for weekend night tourist flight, and £43 14s day tourist.

BERMUDA

Bermuda has been described as "Cornwall in the sun" – very British, very beautiful - and every year a little less expensive to get to.

To go under your own steam can be prohibitive, but BOAC are offering several all-inclusive trips under the £200 mark. Eleven days (10 nights) holiday by Sky Coach class jet at the Bermudiana – a beautiful new ultra-modern hotel in secluded semi-tropical gardens, with swimming pool, games room, and dancing nightly to calypso music, private beach – etc, costs in low season from £172 (lunch not included). High season supplement is 20s a day (16 March – 21 October).

That £50 can still

NOW we're back to V-forms and austerity, here's *London Life's* guide for honest holiday-makers, without continental friends, business associates or Swiss bank accounts, who want to seek sunshine and keep inside that £50 limit. It can still be done. If you're prepared to spend more on your fare, travel farther, and spend less when you get there, then think first in terms of more exotic countries with lower standards of living.

GREECE

Let's start with Greece, the land where the word for foreigner and guest is the same, land of sunshine, wine and magic.

How Far Your £50 Goes: Greece is one of the cheapest countries in Europe. Remember your fare does not come within the £50 limit so it can be worth while to travel farther and pay less when you get there.

Food and accommodation prices in Greece are highly competitive. A 14-day holiday in a good "C" class hotel would cost an average of £2 10s a day, or £35 the fortnight. Here's how it works out: Room (usually with shower, £1 7s; breakfast, 3s; two other meals, 16s; tips, 4s; total, £2 10s.

But how about the little items which make one's holiday fun but eat into the budget. Greece scores again here. A glass of *ouzo*, the aniseed-tasting national aperitif, with a small snack will cost you 1s 6d. *Retsina* and ordinary wine are from 1s 6d to 2s 6d a bottle, a cup of Turkish coffee costs 9d, airmail postcards home 9d, taxi fares 9d per kilometre within the city boundaries of Athens and 1s 4d a kilometre for

A PLACE IN THE SUN

buy you Europe

Free-spending holiday-makers who thought nothing of a £200 holiday on the Costa Brava last year are now thinking twice, three times and doing complicated sums. But Europe can still be yours. Here's how to do the Continent on that fifty pound allowance.

other journeys. And Greek taxi drivers don't usually expect tips.

How to Get There: The fast way: London to Athens, 3½ hours by jet. The lowest return fare (night tourist) is £76 8s.

Slower but cheaper: The Direct Orient Express and the Austria Express both leave London daily and take about three days to reach Athens. Lowest return fares are, respectively, £38 3s and £34 1s. Couchettes are a guinea extra.

Driving: Greek roads are good. After taking a car ferry across the Channel, if you want a part-sea journey drive to Brindisi and board the crack ferry for Piraeus, Corfu, Igoumenitsa or Patras. Or to Venice or Ancona where you can join a cruise ship that takes cars.

Where to Stay: If you want the sun and fun side of Greece most take an island holiday. Many of the islanders of Crete, Delos, Mykonos, Rhodes, Hydra and Corfu receive paying guests in their own homes.

The cradle of civilisation, Athens, has a special lure for the British tourist. Visit the Acropolis, the Agora, the old and picturesque Plaka quarter, and the Monastiraki area, an old market marvellous for souvenir hunting. Away from the capital there's Delphi, Epidaurus, Olympia, Corinth and Mycenae.

What to Eat and Drink: Eating Greek-style is delicious (and why not get into training by visiting a good Greek restaurant in London first?) Vine leaves are stuffed with spicy meat, steamed and covered with a tangy egg and lemon sauce. Fish couldn't be fresher. Try *Garides*, shrimps oven-baked with fresh cheese and herbs, and the classic *Moussaka*, baked egg plant, beef and vegetables. The popular aperitif is *ouzo*, the wine the Greeks drink is *retsina* which is rather an acquired taste. But most local wines are good and cheap. Sweet tooth? *Baklava*, the gooey honey cake made with nuts and cinnamon. Strong coffee and fresh fruit.

Further Information: National Tourist Organisation of Greece, 197 Regent Street, W1. (REG 5997).

PORTUGAL

Our oldest ally, land of sunshine, port and dignified serious people with a Celtic rather than Mediterranean temperament, Portugal is offering holiday bargains galore.

How Far Your £50 Goes: Hotel and food prices are extremely reasonable, but there's a price difference between a resort hotel or pension at the seaside and a hotel in Lisbon. A seaside hotel in the Algarve will probably cost (full pension, three meals a day) between £1 16s 6d to £2 2s 6d a day. In Lisbon a good "B" class hotel will cost between £1 10s to £2 10s. full pension.

Little incidentals that make a holiday worth having: a glass of port, 2s to 3s depending on the surroundings in which you drink it, free nuts and olives and titbits; a restaurant meal at the equivalent of Lisbon's Mirabelle or Caprice that never costs more than £2 per person – a usual good restaurant price is 15s, trattoria-type cafes about 8s a head; and a splendid institution called *vinho de casa*.

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North Africa booming and cheap

IT doesn't matter how far you go carrying your precious £50 in your pocket, for the fare is not deductable from your allowance. So the countries of North Africa, where the cost of living is still relatively cheap, are expecting the usual influx of sun-starved British tourists this spring and summer, and the travel agents are offering more and more attractive tours in their brochures.

MOROCCO

A country that has everything to offer tourists of all types, at all times of the year.

Where to Stay: Tangiers, of course; Rabat or the sophisticated holiday resort of Restinga, Marrakesh in the winter or early spring, or the smaller fishing villages of Tetuan, Chauen or Al Hoceima.

Cost of Living: A three-star hotel costs from £2 10s a day full board, and comfortable two-star hotel from £2 each. A bungalow for two at Restinga, Al Hoceima or Agadir is £36 a month (contact Maroc Tourist, BP 408, Rabat, Morocco). A good three-course meal costs about 15s, local wines about 4s a bottle; beer 1s 8d (Scotch expensive at 4s 7d); mint tea: 6d; a coffee: 1s; car hire: is from 30s a day basic, with 3d a km extra. But you can hire a car in Gibraltar and pay in sterling. Contact Lane's Travel Service, 251 Brompton Road, SW3.

Package Tours: Horizon have picked hotels in Tangier, Al Hoceima and Restinga – 15 days at the Mohammed V at Al Hoceima in high season costs £76 (V-form amount £36). They also do various two-centre holidays in Tangier and Torremolinos or Tangiers and Gibraltar.

How to Get There: by BEA via Gibraltar: Midweek night tourist £40 5s, and weekend night flight £44 13s. Day flights £63 4s. By plane from Gibraltar to Tangiers, £4 return; by boat £2 18s. Car from Gibraltar, from £4 7s single.

TUNISIA

Currently most fashionable, with tourism high on the government's priority list and new hotels being built.

Where to Stay: Hammamet is the most sophisticated resort, and though it is fast rising in popularity the long stretches of sand are so enormous that there must always be beach room for everyone. Sidi Bou Said is a hill-top village overlooking the bay of Tunis with only two hotels in the village itself. The island of Djerba, linked by causeway to the mainland, is superb.

Cost of Living: A top-class hotel costs £3 a day full board and a good second-class hotel about £2. You can eat well in Tunis itself for 7s 6d. Local wine costs from 1s 6d a bottle – in a hotel from about 3s. Beer is 1s 8d; a liqueur 2s 6d; cup of coffee 10d. Twenty Tunisian cigarettes 2s 3d.

Travel Agents: Horizon have a good selection of one and two-centre holidays (15 days holiday at the Tanit, Hammamet from £73 (V-form amount £23). They also have an attractive air cruise visiting Malta, Tripoli, Djerba (a week's stay) and Palermo. 14 days. Departures every Saturday till 29 April – cost from £109.

Wrights offer 15-day all-inclusive holidays on the island of Djerba from 57½ guineas, leaving £40 per person for spending money, and on the Tunisian mainland from 57½ guineas, for 15 days, leaving £38 to spend.

How to Get There: British Eagle are the only airlines that fly direct from Britain. They have two flights a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays – Cost is £59 for monthly return to Tunis or £66 16s return to Djerba.

Europe's sun drenched Far West is the best value

Continued from page 23

which means that in unpretentious non-*de-luxe* restaurants and hotels you get a half-pint of wine free with your meal.

Typical prices: cup of coffee, 5d; airmail postcard home, 1s 1½d; taxis, minimum on the clock, 7½d, after that 7d a kilometre.

How to Get There: Direct services to Lisbon by Portuguese Airways, British European Airways and British United Airways Tourist-class return: £60 11s.

By sea, the lowest single tourist class fare is £14 by Grimaldi Siosa Lines from Southampton. Overland by rail, there's the London/Paris/Lisbon route. The crack Sud-Express between Paris Lisbon does the journey in an hour. Single fares are first-class single, £23 11s; and second class £16 5s. Sleeping berths are extra.

Where to Stay: Don't miss staying at the typically Portuguese *pousadas*. These are good-class State-run inns. Lisbon has modern buildings with broad avenues, and the port recalls memories of Vasco de Gama. The night life is exciting, the shopping enticing. Oporto is Portugal's second largest city and centre for the wine industry of the Douro. The Algarve has golden beaches, a still unspoilt atmosphere and a reliable climate.

What to Eat and Drink: Fish is a staple of the Portuguese menu. *Culdeirada* is a stew of mixed fish, with onion, peppers and tomato, *Galdo Vedre* is a cabbage soup into which a thick hunk of maize bread is crumbled. Regional dishes in the Douro include capon in saffron and partridge soup. There are 400 varieties of Portuguese wines: *Vinho verde* is a pleasant wine from Northern Portugal, Bombarral a strong red wine – and port, port, port.

Further Information: Casa de Portugal, Portuguese National National Tourist Office, 20 Lower Regent Street, SW1 (WHI 2455).

SPAIN

The British holidaymaker's firm favourite – glorious sunshine, appetising food and a warm welcome.

How Far Your £50 Goes: A Seville hotel's bed-and-breakfast deal can be £1 12s 6d a couple nightly. That's for a good class "B" hotel. Count on 10s each for lunch and dinner together. A pleasant seaside hotel, full pension would be £2 5s 0d per couple per day.

A bottle of everyday wine is 5d, a pint (call it *vino corriente*), a cup of coffee, say 5d. to 7d. A great Spanish institution is the delicious plates of *tapas* – free hors' d'oeuvres, anchovy stuffed olives, almonds, fried seafood.

A picnic lunch prepared by a hotel, consisting of orangeade, mineral water, ham, cheeses, sausages, shellfish, fresh peaches, bread, butter and coffee, might cost 18s for a family of four with healthy appetites.

How to Get There: By air, British United Airways, BEA and Iberia run regular scheduled services to the main centres. For Barcelona, the night tourist economy fare is £28 midweek, £33 weekends. Malaga, your best point of departure for the Costa del Sol, is £42 10s midweek and £46 11s weekends; both fares night tourist economy class. Palma, Majorca, £32 8s midweek, £36 18s at the weekend. By sea, taking your car, Swedish Lloyd operate a car ferry from Southampton to Bilbao. The service starts on 5 April, and costs £16 each person, return fare. If there are four people in the car, the car goes free, but two adults in a Ford Anglia, for example, would have to pay £7 return.

Where to Stay: Spain has some of the world's most magnificent beaches. In fact most piggish British holidaymakers who only want sunshine, cheap liquor and night life never see any part of Spain but the seaside.

The Costa Brava and Balearic islands have been paradise now for years. The Canary Islands and the Costa del Sol offer a contrast to the fiercer Cantabrian coast in the Basque country.

Seville, Madrid and Barcelona are exciting cosmopolitan sophisticated cities, with night life that varies from traditional flamenco dancing to the most modern discothèques. But try to visit history-laden cities such as Toledo, Salamanca, Santiago de Compostela too.

What to Eat and Drink: *Gazpacho*, the delicious summer chilled soup; the *entremeses* or hors d'oeuvres – shellfish, hams, sausages, anchovies, olives and almonds. *Paella* is the best known Spanish dish. Spaniards swear it's at its glorious best along the Valencian coast. On a rice basis, go chicken, lean pork, cured ham, green peppers, spices, saffron, crayfish, mussels – and the result is bliss. Eating *paella* twice in one day is not recommended however. I once did so, and lived to regret it. Sweet tooth? Fresh figs, excellent cremes caramels and sticky, lovely *turron*, a nougat of nuts and honey.

Further Information: Spanish National Tourist Office, 70 Jermyn Street, SW1 (WHI 8578).

ITALY

The country that has captured the English imagination ever since Shelley; the country that produces the foreign dish found most often on the English menu.

How Far Your £50 Goes: Not quite as far as in its sunshine competitors, Greece, Spain and Portugal. But careful holidaymakers can still have a super stay in beautiful Italy and keep within the budget. According to a 1965 survey the average amount British tourists spent in Italy was £47. Pleasant pensions and hotels offer full board for £3 to £2 a day. Remember the Italians love children and cater for them, and that each child has his own £50 allowance.

British tobaccos and spirits are cheaper in Italy than they are at home if you insist on drinking Scotch and smoking your favourite brand.

You'll get plenty of this in Europe – eating out in the sunshine.

Espresso coffee is 6d a cup, cappucino 1s; a bottle of ordinary table wine costs from 4s a litre; the price rather depends on the class of restaurant you're drinking in. Taxis don't seem much of a bargain. 2s 2d for the first 50 yards then 3d for each additional 20 yards. Good souvenir buys are real silk scarves, 10s to £2. A stylish pottery ashtray costs you about 4s and super Italian shoes (for ladies) £3 to £4 – and that's the kind of shoe that costs 10 guineas in London.

How to Get There: By air (tourist-class return fare) the cheapest, night tourist, to Rome is £44 17s, to Venice, £37 3s and to Naples 48 8s. Train travel can be by a choice of routes *via* Switzerland, *via* Paris and Chambery, *via* Paris and Marseilles, and *via* Cologne and the Austrian frontier. Return fares from London, second class, to Lake Como, £21 4s; to Naples, £29 16s; to Rome, £28 10s and to Venice, £24 10s.

Where to Stay: Sardinia is probably the "innest" resort and there's always the chance of meeting the Aga Khan (single girls please note). Alghero, the capital, offers night life as well as being the only town-cum-beach resort on the island.

Elba, with its mountainous scenery, Ischia, and Capri all have their devoted fans. Rome, Naples, Milan and sadly devastated Florence all have their individual flavour. Stubborn businessmen who

talk shop on holiday will savour Milan's hustle and bustle.

What to Eat and Drink: Pasta, of course, but pasta cooked Italian style *al dente*, not soggy and sad and Soho. Lasage, cannelloni and those tasty green-spinach-flavoured noodles. At coastal resorts you can get fish dishes like *zuppa de cozze*, an Italian version of *moules marinières* in a rich tomato sauce; *fritto misto*, a mouthwatering selection of batter-fried freshly caught fish and shellfish. For drink – Chianti, of course; for sparkle *Asti Spumante*, for liqueur Stock or Strega. And, of course, espresso coffee.

Further Information: Italian State Tourist Office, 201 Regent Street, London, W1 (REG 2818).

YUGOSLAVIA

Behind the Iron Curtain without being austere, a Socialist experiment which hasn't dampened the natural gaiety of the people, a true bargain holiday area – that's Yugoslavia. And you can always play James Bond and pretend beautiful girl spies are going to sidle up to you in cafés.

How Far Your £50 Goes: A long, long way. Yugoslavian tourist authorities want visitors and there's a good deal of incentive to fulfil their wish.

A fortnight's holiday in a good second-class hotel will cost £20 a person. That's full pension. The Yugoslavs recommend full pension because there's little difference between the prices of eating in and eating out.

The national tipple Sljivovica – plum brandy – costs 6d a glass. A snack, say a ham sandwich, about 1s. A bottle of table wine bought in an ordinary restaurant, 3s. A cup of coffee is 8d, postcards 4d. Taxi fares in Belgrade and Split couldn't be more reasonable. It's 3d a kilometre and tipping is appreciated, but not necessarily expected, by your sturdy Socialist hosts. Great buys in leather. Super handbags for instance cost between 10s to £1 10s.

How to Get There: The exciting Orient Express-type way, taking a train from London *via* Ostend, Aachen, Cologne, Munich, Salzburg, Jesenice, Ljubljana to Rijeka. From London the second-class return fare is £26 5s. To Belgrade, it's £29 7s.

JAT, the Yugoslav national airline, Pan-Am and BEA operate scheduled flights to Yugoslavia.

The economy-class return fare to Dubrovnik is £52 10s and to Belgrade, £56 4s.

Where to Stay: The sunny Adriatic coast promises pale Britons warmth and sunshine from March to the end of October. There are mountains, crystal clear sea, olive groves and pine woods. Beaches are superb, antiquities and picturesque villages abound. Alpine lakeland at the mountain resort of Lake Bled. Belgrade is a sophisticated modern capital and Dubrovnik, the ancient Byzantine city, is fast becoming not only fashionable but positively Parisian.

What to Eat and Drink: Yugoslavian cuisine is exotic and exciting, with a strong Eastern influence. There's *tava*, made of several kinds of meat and vegetables and served in earthenware bowls. *Japrak* is minced meat wrapped in grapevine leaves and lamb on the spit is another speciality. Pastries are excellent.

Good wines. Besides the delicious Rieslings we buy here, try *zilavka* (white) and *blatina* (red).

Further Information: Yugoslavia National Tourist Office, 143 Regent Street, W1 (REG 7101).

Latest travel books, see page 41

Leisure and luxury in Tunisia

REMEMBERED impressions: long, white, sandy beaches with a camel squatting a few yards from a luxury yacht; veiled women eyeing my mini-skirt with far more curiosity (anger? envy?) than their menfolk; brand-new hotels with marble bathroom suites and baths so elegant one could have soaked for hours had there been hot water; the mosques and cool, ornate mausoleums and the many-coloured *souks* of Kairouan where you can bargain for marvellous rugs and carpets; the Roman ruins of Carthage and the amphitheatre at El Djem that is equally as impressive as the Coliseum at Rome; the sea . . . the sun, of course . . . but most of all the constant awareness that it is Africa and that it has all the magic lure that the travel brochures promise.

I went to Tunisia in late October as a guest of British Eagle. We had only eight days, and in this short time our hosts managed to crowd in more than seemed possible, especially as there was always the blue Mediterranean to tempt the party away from sightseeing. So most of our swimming on the endless long stretches of sandy beaches – better than any I have seen in Europe – was done at dawn or midnight when the sea, even at this time of the year, was still warm enough, especially with a nip of the local drink Boukha (distilled from figs) to warm you up on emerging.

First port of call was Monastir – a wonderfully preserved fortress town that in 1966, like all the other towns we visited, can still show you life as it was lived in the Middle Ages. Monastir is surrounded by a series of beaches, some rocky, some sandy, but all with extraordinarily limpid water.

Nearby the main town is Skanès, an area of new, gleaming hotels – with the boom in tourism, 32 hotels have been built in Tunisia in the last five years. We stayed at the Tanit Hotel, (there are other Tanits on the islands of Djerba and Hammamet), which is really a series of chalets with loggias leading directly to the sea. All rooms have a private bath, and the chalets are grouped around a central building with restaurant, bar, games rooms, and a swimming pool on the terrace.

The highlight of the trip for me must certainly be the day spent in the religious capital – Kairouan, the second most important Islamic centre after Mecca, with over 150 domes of mosques on the skyline. The hotel where we stayed, Les Aghlabites was all ornate marble and ironwork, with a mosaic swimming pool surrounded by lounging chairs and hammocks, true Hollywood style. Our day in this ancient city coincided with a visit from President Bourguiba, who was showing the town off to his guest, the President of Niger, and his colourful entourage. The motorcade through the narrow streets, lined by black-eyed children, some with drums, all shouting rhythmically, was an infectiously exciting experience. We were invited to the official banquet at the Mosque of the Barber where we sat cross-legged on the floor trying to hide our knees (we were told we could wear trousers, but it seemed a little odd to turn up at a Presidential banquet in a pair of blue denims), and enjoyed a feast of Tunisian specialities like *couscous* and *mechoui* (mutton grilled over charcoal).

Other highlights of the tour were the visits to the oasis town of Gabès, which has yet another new marble hotel (the Oasis) and a beach of white sand which must surely be one of the best on the shores of the Mediterranean. Nearby is the oasis itself, where in the shade of the gigantic date palms grow oranges, lemons, apricots and pomegranates.

Another extraordinarily attractive place was the hilltop village of Sidi-Bou Said – which has just one small hotel (there is a larger one – the Amilcar – right on the sea). Just 15 miles from Tunis, and perhaps more European than African, the view of the sparkling Bay of Tunis from its terraces made it a place I long to return to.

SHEILA FITZJONES

TUNIS . . . AS LONDON LIFE PRESENTS ITS COMPREHENSIVE

In the sherry lands of Andalusia

THE sherry-producing area of Spain is underdeveloped. That doesn't mean uncivilised or primitive, but just that the area is not geared to wooing and entertaining the casual tourist. This makes it refreshingly different from the Barcelona belt, from the Balearic Islands, from the Costa Blanca, the Costa Brava, the Costa del Sol.

Two Englishmen walking in casual, but definitely untouristic gear through the back ways of Jerez de la Frontera (centre of the region) created considerable interest. Postcards and Spanishery are here, but hard to find. Fish and chips and English tea are not served. Few people, outside the hotels, speak English.

The countryside is, according to taste, passionate or bleak. Leaving Seville by motor-car one feels the force of Andalusia as the landscape hardens and broadens. The colours of the earth change from the rich, red, olive-producing soil through black, umber, ochre, grey, to the whitish vineyards. There are cacti here and there, and along the wayside peasant huts with their well and their donkey, the family living – eating, chatting, snoozing – outside. In the distance, on the small, rounded hills stand the blank, white walls of houses which, like all houses in hot countries, are built looking inwards, ranged round a centre courtyard, cool shaded.

Jerez is a proud town with its own cathedral, bullring and shopping parades, circled by the magnificent bodegas of the big sherry firms. We stayed at the Hotel los Cisnes, a rambling, efficient place built round a centre courtyard full of palms, vines, bouganvillaea and – of course – a pool with swans. Cold showers essential and provided; laundry service immaculate; food interesting without being bizarre.

The time to go is September, when the sherry festival is happening. The town is *en fête* certainly, but the normal tenor of life is not really disturbed. Rivers of sherry flow, ranging from the pale tan *fino* – drunk very cold (if your hand tends to heat the glass slightly, another is provided) – to the rich, dark, sweetest sherries.

There is, naturally, a tradition of sitting at tables on the pavement, watching the crowds stroll by and arguing. *Tapas* are served, little bowls and plates of tidbits – shellfish, kidneys, olives, biscuits – to nibble the hours away. And everywhere there is the soup of Andalusia, the cold *gazpacho* made from tomatoes, onions, garlic, peppers, olive oil. At a superb lunch served at the vineyard house of Gonzalez Byass the *gazpacho* was preceded by lobsters and tortillas, and followed by mixed fried sea-food, a cold terrine of game and *flan* – which we would call *crème caramel*.

The bodegas – cellars where the sherry is produced and matured – are without exception magnificently cared for and have a splendid elegance. Though it is true that once one has seen one – the barrels lined in cathedral-like enclaves, cool, shadowy richly scented places – one has seen them all. But there are smaller, pretty ones, each courtyard a set for some delicious comic opera. Typical is that of Barbadillos at Sanlucar, on the mouth of the Guadalquivir.

The sea, with its splendid bathing facilities, is never too far from Jerez – which makes the town an ideal centre for staying in. There are virtually untouched, clean beaches at Sanlucar, at Chipiona (which has a good, modern hotel, the Currican) and at Puerto Santa Maria where the impressive Terry bodega stands (at their party they showed Cartujana horses, their hooves striking sparks from the cobbled courtyard). The beaches have private changing huts on hire, but the tourist need not worry over expense – they are also equipped with clean, communal changing rooms, complete with shower and someone to watch over your clothes.

There is no resentment of the tourist or holidaymaker here; and though the people do not go out of their way to seduce the traveller, they are friendly and helpful.

Lazy way of soaking up

DREAM of sun-warmed waters, calling at enchanted islands, unspoilt fishing villages and exotic ports – then think of a cruise, for this is one of the best ways to visit the most diverse range of countries.

The following selections from the sailing lists of the top shipping lines may help you to decide which is your cruise. Fares include all meals and entertainment on board:

P and O – ORIENT LINES, 14 Cockspur Street, SW1 (WHI 4444).

This line has probably the largest selection of voyages to suit all tastes and all pockets. Their first cruise starts on 16 April, when the *CHUSAN* leaves Southampton on a 14-day visit to Dakar, Las Palmas and Teneriffe with, as added bonus, a 29-hour stop-over in Madeira; fares are from £95 tourist class, and only £132 first class. Throughout May and June the *IBERIA*, *ORCADES* and *CHUSAN* will sail with sun-seekers to the Canary Isles and such new places as the Sardinian ports (9 June – 21 days on *IBERIA*: fares from £126 tourist, £198 first). The *CHUSAN* will cruise to Narvik and Trondheim among others on its 1 July cruise, spending 13 days along (and in) the fjord area: fares are from £88 tourist, £123 first. Also doing one cruise each are the two queens of the P and O fleet: *ORIANA* and *CANBERRA*. *ORIANA* sails on 21 July on a 14-day cruise to Athens and Beirut (from £95 tourist, £171 first), and *CANBERRA* goes to Alexandria, Athens and Istanbul on 11 August. Fares for this 16-day voyage are from £109 tourist, £195 first class.

CUNARD STEAM-SHIP CO, LTD, 15 Regent Street, SW1 (WHI 7890).

Cunard have a very full programme for 1967, even including a seven-day Easter cruise on 22 March to Las Palmas on that grand old lady the *QUEEN MARY* (fares from £70). Among other voyages, the *SYLVANIA* will make a 21-day cruise to the Mediterranean on 7 March and a 14-day cruise to the French Riviera and Italian coast on 30 March. Fares are from £170 for the French, from £105 for the Italian.

But perhaps the most interesting feature of all on the Cunard brochure this year is their "Fly and Cruise" holidays . . . flying to Gibraltar with BEA (3½ hours) where you join your cruise ship. This is, of course, gives you far more sunshine. There are six different Cunard-BEA Fly and Cruise holidays to choose from, sailing between February and mid-April. Five are on the *SYLVANIA* and the grandest on the *QUEEN ELIZABETH* – depart 27 February, 21 days from £335 and visiting Tangier, Alexandria, Beirut, Haifa, Rhodes, Athens, Messina, Naples, Cannes, and fly home again from Barcelona.

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE, 120 Pall Mall, SW1 (WHI 1972).

This line can always be relied on for interest. The *NEW AMSTERDAM* will have a splendid 26-day "Spring Discovery" cruise, leaving Southampton on 7 May for Malta, Egypt, Turkey, Russia, Rumania and Sicily, and other countries. Fares are from £251. A particularly unusual

What with currency restrictions, the shipping lines are expecting a big rush from people who believe that a cruise in the sun is the ideal way of spending a holiday.

the sun . . .

trip by this line is to New Orleans, Tampico and Vera Cruz from Antwerp – the complete round-voyage lasting some six weeks and costing from £202 upwards.

ROYAL MAIL LINES, America House, Cockspur Street, SW1 (TRA 6271).

This line starts the New Year with a 62-day round-Africa tour (fares from £600). Also offered are some very attractive cruises to the West Indies – 25 days (dep 11 April) for £190 – though you can pay up to £625 for a luxury suite. There is also a 22-day cruise to the Mediterranean, leaving on 4 September, for £165.

FRENCH LINE, 20 Cockspur Street, SW1 (TRA 9040).

The French Line are having two special spring cruises on the longest liner in the world – their 66,000-ton flagship *FRANCE*. Departing Cannes on 21 March, the vessel will make a 10-day cruise to Beirut, Haifa and Rhodes – fares will be from £130 upwards. This ship is famous for its excellent cuisine. The second cruise, calling at Istanbul, Mykonos and Athens, departs for an 11-day voyage on 1 April. Transport to Cannes can easily be arranged through your travel agent. The French Line will also be running their regular sunshine round-voyages to the West Indies on the *FLANDRE* and *ANTILLES*. These ships sail at fortnightly intervals, with provision for excursions at most ports. The round-voyage lasts about a month, and fares are from £87 tourist class single, £150 first class single. There is a 25 per cent. reduction on round-voyages.

CHANDRIS LINES, 5 St Helen's Place, Bishopsgate, EC3 (LON 5984).

This year they have nine cruises, all sailing from Southampton. The *ELLENIS* sails for its first, 14-day cruise on 28 May, calling at Lisbon, Casablanca, Gibraltar and Algiers. Fares will be from £71 on this one-class liner. Other sailings to the sun will be made on 24 June (including Naples), 10 and 21 July and 4 August. The *AUSTRALIS* will sail on 6 and 20 August and 3 September for a similar range of Mediterranean ports, with fares from £75 for 14 days. Altogether the line offers its passengers 19 new ports of call.

There is more confusion about the £50 allowance in relation to cruising than any other aspect of trouble abroad.

CRUISING AND THE £50 ALLOWANCE.

Briefly the situation is this: No one cruising on a British ship will have to pay any of the fare or any on-board expenses out of his £50: the money is available entirely for on-shore excursions in non-sterling area ports and for souvenirs. Foreign ships sailing from British ports were originally subject to 20 per cent. deduction from the £50 allowance, but many of the Lines have come to individual arrangements with the Bank of England. Your local travel agent will tell you which lines allow the full £50 allowance.

Cigarettes on board ship are about 1s 6d for 20 and whisky sells at about 1s a tot.

It is essential to take sterling travellers' cheques with you so that you can use them at any sterling ports of call your boat sails into.

The Caribbean is like being in love

ONCE upon a time, quite a long time ago, the Caribbean was a vague, far-away kind of place. Aristocratic ladies carrying crocodile handbags went to Jamaica and Barbados with wealthy husbands in elegant, monogrammed shirts. They stayed three months in plantation Great Houses, served by a white-coated butler and dozens of dark-skinned maids. Not quite so long ago, there were sometimes vacant seats in aircraft and some empty beds in hotels, and nothing but American was heard on those gold-plated shores. In those far-off days they were glad to see you, even in winter; in summer nobody went there at all.

Then suddenly Caribbea was upon us; it had all been unspoilt far too long. The British Virgins managed to stay virgin, almost, but the US Virgins were utterly lost. BOAC took out loads of writers who wrote: "Pink, gold and white sands and not a soul in sight"; discreetly, black, which some of those beaches are, wasn't mentioned. Skycoaches roared in daily, a bit cramped, but then prices *have* dropped; now the blue seas have no status symbol, anyone takes the plunge. Wigan and Worthing, Putney and Penge rub shoulders under the sun.

Hotels sprang up like mushrooms, gift-wrapped and sanitary shrines, with here and there a Hilton rising among the palms; and just to make paradise perfect, the Playboy with Bunnies arrived.

Next came those dazzling brochures that you need sunglasses to read: "Sixteen days in expensive, exotic islands for just under £195" looks remarkably like a fortnight when you take off the glasses and see. This price is for summer only. But it's cold and you want to go now, so begin to add up the extras, supplement for high season (the time when they push you around), supplement for single room, and what about lunch? Not included. And you must tip all the time. £250 looks more like rock-bottom for a fortnight in winter for one.

If then, a modest £250 is all you have to spend, a package deal gives the most; what goes into the package you can decide for yourself, if you prefer to avoid brochureland. To choose from so many islands is a much more difficult job; each is utterly different, so it depends on what you want. Barbados, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and the US Virgin Islands are all old to the tourist game. Two islands are less developed but have sophisticated hotels, not a hint of risk or adventure but no Elizabeth Arden and very bumpy roads. Getting rare and ranking highest of all are islands just waking to tourists, with a simple hotel or two, not a supermarket in sight, a casino something unknown. Among them: British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat.

Take it for granted that you can swim, sail and fish everywhere; the more tourist-conscious islands may have tennis and golf. There is riding on most islands, but it could be a donkey or mule, and those with mountain ranges provide some formidable peaks; duck shooting is available and an alligator hunt still exists. For those who very much want them there are night clubs in all resorts. Most hotels have barbecues and picnics on the beach, almost any age dances to every kind of band, and parties are endless.

Caribbea is like love, you hate and adore all at once: mild symptoms are merely dreams of bikinis, warmth and rum, but really advanced cases must get there or go round the bend. It's the casual way of living, that maddening slow-motion pace; it's blue seas at bath-heat, the humming birds flitting around. It's cane fields waving, hibiscus bright in the hedge. It's chirruping of crickets without which you can't sleep at night.

Caribbea is an addiction for which there is no known cure, but as these heavenly islands are taken and, one by one, reduced to uniform Butlinery, resistance is getting stronger and a cure seems to be in sight.

MARY SLATER

Above: Blue on black patterned one-piece by Spirella, with a slightly draped skirt front and deep U-back. The price is £12 1s 3d, or in plain batiste from £8 13s 3d. Available from over 6,000 Spirella consultants or from Spirella House, Oxford Circus, W1 (REG 3832).

Left: Hunter green with pink trim Bri-nylon bikini by Nelbarden, available in the New Year. The price is 77s 6d and it comes in various colour combinations. From John Lewis, Oxford Street, W1 (MAY 7711).

SPOTS, AND THE SPOTS JUST A

Above: Pretty printed cotton voile bikini and jacket by Silhouette. It has underwired cups and back fastening on the bikini top. The bikini is 59s 11d. Jacket to match 69s 11d. Available in the New Year from D H Evans, Oxford Street, W1 (MAY 8800).

Right: Blue one-piece with yellow rings by Linroy, available end of February at approximately 5 guineas from the Separate Centre, 283 Oxford Street, W1 (GRO 3920).

CUTTING A DAZZLE

by Sarah Drummond

SHOPS that have all-the-year-round beach departments are Lillywhites, Liberty, Simpsons, Harrods, Debenham and Freebody, Harvey Nichols Fortnum and Mason, Marshall and Snelgrove, Selfridges, Dickins and Jones – and Sea and Ski. For those who haven't already discovered this little shop in Pimlico Road it is a godsend; it concentrates on sea and ski wear exclusively.

Shops which start selling swimsuits in February and March include Jaeger, Fenwick, Neatawear, Peter Robinson, and Fifth Avenue. A few boutiques sell bikinis too, including Top Gear and Biba – who are going in for them in a far bigger way than last year, but not until the summer – and Maxine Leighton, who also waits till then she has marvellously pretty and beautifully cut French bikinis, usually with a matching skirt.

Bikinis, of course, can't really change their shape, and seem to be increasingly in demand; the main look next year, apart from the plain scoop neck, is a much higher front and plungingly low back (like the Jantzen swimsuit in our photograph). For materials, Helanca is losing ground and Lycra is big news; also a very lightweight celon, stretch towelling, cotton, cotton voile crepon and seersucker. The colour story is very bright – both plain and patterned.

The biggest news of all is swimwear stepping into the co-ordinate game. At Liberty (on sale now and continuing to spring), in one of their own prints, are matching swimsuits, towelling lined beach wraps, trousers, shirts, skirts and beach dresses they come in silk and cotton. Jaeger will be having matching stretch towelling swimsuits, bikinis and jump suits; Neatawear will have seersucker dresses with bikinis to match, and Colin Glascoe do marvellous cotton voile dresses, shirts and bikinis (sold at most big stores). In March Harrods will be selling swimsuits from the States (which come in large sizes too) in Japanese tetron, and very pretty, plain tenty shifts to go over them; already they have, at 6 guineas, brightly coloured crepon cover-up dresses (with very short skirts) which look great over plain swimsuits. Lillywhites is another store that is doing a lot of swim/beachwear co-ordinates.

Pale blue and white swimsuit in double stretch nylon, by Svend for Jantzen, with a high neck and low back (also in pink, melon and pilot blue): £4 15s at Selfridges and D H Evans, early February. His trunks are pale blue banded in white and navy blue, and cost £2 5s at Austin Reed, early February.

BEAUTIQUE

THE BEAUTY SERVICE FOR WOMEN . . . by Norma Moriceau

HAIR BOX: At Fortnum and Mason – two very handy cases for holding hairpieces and wigs. In mock crocodile, hide or leather, one is 8in. high and has a mushroom-shaped block inside; this is best for hairpieces. The other is 15in. high, with a full head block and is great for wigs. They open like a sewing case, and come in black, brown or white. The small case is 7 guineas, the larger one 10 guineas.

BEATING TIME: *Alexe (of 17 Queen Street, Mayfair: GRO 5808/9) have a very useful Speedy Set service for clients who need their hair to look super for evening engagements.* Time: *6-7 pm.* Cost: *10s 6d for a set on heated rollers; or, alternatively, a comb-out, or simply hairpieces put on and arranged. Comb-out costs 7s 6d for short hair and 15s 6d for* chignon.

FADE OUT: If you are plagued by oily skin, giving you a constantly shiny nose, try Morndew Anti-Shine Cream by Cyclax. It costs 9s 3d and is a non-greasy cream, which can be used as a foundation for oily skin – or applied as an anti-shine for the nose and chin.

PROBLEM BOX: *Over-indulgence of rich foods at Christmas time may now be causing moans of regret. Elizabeth Arden's Complexion Clear will help – it cleans the skin thoroughly, and is mildly antiseptic. Price: 19s and 35s 6d. Also Arden's Problem Skin Care Box for 30s which includes the Complexion Clear, Velva Smooth Lotion, a jar of Healing Cream (for night), Soothing Lotion (it heals as well as acts as a cover foundation); and, finally, Ardena Masque for really deep cleansing of all impurities in the skin.*

IN TRENA BOGUE STYLE . . .

TRENA BOGUE won the British Cover Girl contest last October and has since been modelling in London. Twenty-five years old, and married to theatrical producer Robert Bogue, Trena says he taught her all she now knows about make-up, including tricks to make the most of her features. She keeps her skin in good condition by using Oil of Ulay at night (she also uses this as a base for her make-up). Her foundation is Elizabeth Arden's Veiled Radiance in Sport Light, dusted with Arden's Invisible Veil powder.

She uses Leichner's stick stage make-up in Lake (which is a plum colour) to shade her cheekbones and to soften her jaw-line, which gives a more oval shape to her face "and it doesn't run or go moist and absorbs the light rather than reflects it." Arden's Rose Aurora lipstick is a favourite, which she applies over Leichner's white stick make-up; after blotting the lips together, it gives them a slightly darker edge.

For her eyes, Trena uses Arden's French Grey cream Shado on the lids, and then applies the Leichner white on her brow bone to give a more bony look. Her eyeliner is Arden's brown liquid, and for the eyebrows she uses alternate strokes of Revlon's grey and brown pencil to make them softer; the brown pencil is used in eye hollows for emphasis.

To remove her make-up, she likes Crowe's cream remover, which is also theatrical, but not heavy or greasy. Trena has her hair done by Steiner in Grosvenor Street as she finds they are more individual and sophisticated.

WOULD YOU?: *From John (54 Knightsbridge, SW1: BEL 6631) comes this super head-dress made of wood shavings. It can be painted white, gold or any colour you like – and can be worn as a bridal head-dress or for parties or formal evenings. The one above is about 5 guineas, but they come in various sizes.*

BEAUTY BRAIDS: *Patti Smith (of Smith and Hawes, Hairdressing Salon, 76-78 Sloane Avenue, SW3: KNI 8875) designed the style* (above) *for Fiona Lewis, who appears in the Polanski film* The Vampire Killers. *The style is created with two dynel hairpieces by Simon Wigs. Price with your own hairpieces, is 25s.*

ON A YEAST BASE: This is a recipe for a really deep cleansing face masque recommended by Trena Bogue made up of: one teaspoon of yeast pellets in warm water, one teaspoon of honey, two teaspoons of Oil of Ulay (or any liquid cream), one teaspoon of astringent, and, for extra whitening effects, three drops of peroxide.

This is mixed together and applied until dry. It is then rinsed off *immediately* with warm water and patted dry with a linen towel (so that no lint gets in the pores). A generous amount of Oil of Ulay is next applied until it soaks in and disappears. Now the face is splashed with cold water and astringent finally applied to close the pores.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WEARING

Caroline Delege (right), wearing a Chinese badger fur coat from the London Fur Company, with an orange lace blouse from Mary Davies and a brown suede hat from Tony Armstrong.

Cillian Freeman (above left), novelist, screenwrite (*The Leather Boys*), wearing a silver mesh crochet dres from Lady Jane, with silver mesh boots from Amster dam, yellow velvet embroidered evening coat fron Hartnell (*circa* 1926) with silver mobile earrings fron Miss Selfridge.

Roger Young (above right), singer, song writer an record producer, who speaks several languages wearing some of the clothes he has collected on hi travels: a light grey wool suit from St Moritz, pale blu shirt from Hanover, a Black Watch tie from Hollanc and beige suede boots from Sweden.

Gigi (below), wearing grey houndstooth check trousers with a black skinny sweater, both from Istanbul. Gigi has come over here to study drama.

Anthony Gardner (above left), the actor, has just returned from Rome, where he was appearing in *The Taming of the Shrew;* he is wearing a late 19th-century military frockcoat which he found in an old family trunk in King's Lynn.

Kate Coleridge (above right), a young actress, is wearing a "Rupert Bear" cream coat with a brown and grey suede suit both from Quorum, with beige boots from Russell & Bromley.

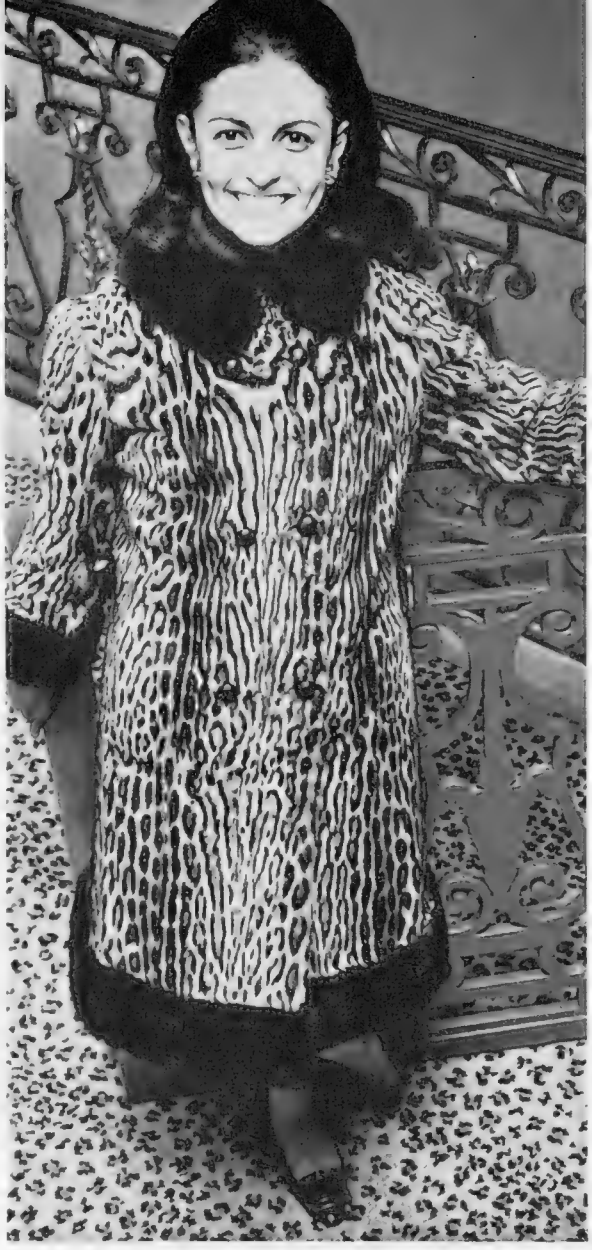
Pap Storey (right), whose husband Walter Storey is in the film business, is wearing a long yellow and black "Kanga." The material was sent from Nairobi, and she made it up.

ONE WOMAN'S WARDROBE

This week – Mrs Harold Lever

Mrs Harold Lever is the wife of the Labour MP for the Cheetham Division of Manchester. They have five children (two by her previous marriage) ranging from the age of 12 years to nine months. Mrs Lever is always immaculately dressed, chooses her clothes with great care and insists on simplicity. She likes pill-box hats which match her outfits, or white leather ones, and is never seen without gloves. She buys her shoes from Roger Vivier or Mancini, likes buckles or bows for the evening. Her handbags come from Hermès or Guerin, and she uses little satin pochets for the evening. Mrs Lever usually buys from couture houses, her favourites being Yves St Laurent, Givenchy, Beliville and Michael. For daytime wear she likes little jersey dresses or suits with short jackets. Her coats are narrow fitted with small collars because being small she is careful to wear nothing overpowering. Mrs Lever entertains a great deal, enjoys wearing long dresses. These are demure in style, but include a lot of coral and blue in the most covetable materials. Mrs Lever does not wear trousers; she prefers tweed skirts and sweaters with white stockings, and hardly ever wears boots except in heavy rain. Her jewellery is always in perfect taste and she loves flowered earrings. Mrs Lever usually does her own hair but also has it styled by Celine at Vidal. During the day she often wears it loose, but puts it up for the evening in exotic plaited styles.

Report by MARGARET DREYFUS
Pictures by JOHN BENTON HARRIS



Above: Brown double-breasted ocelot coat with mink collar, cuffs and a long hemline, from L Woolf.

Right: Mustard and turquoise patterned coat from Geneva with a gold-studded black leather bag from Germaine Guerin. Black patent shoes with gold buckle from Roger Vivier.

Below left: Black velvet dress with pearl and coloured stone belt from Yves St Laurent in Paris.

Below right: Long burgundy velvet dress with medieval tasselled sleeves from Yves St Laurent.

Above left: Long crepe evening dress with gold embroidery on yolk, cuffs and along the hem, from Yves St Laurent.

Above right: Purple knitted dress with zigzag pattern in raspberry and black from Yves St Laurent Boutique in Paris, worn with black patent shoes with silver buckle from Roger Vivier.

HIS PLACE

by Roger Eldridge

SEVERAL weeks ago I quoted a fashion prediction made by John Taylor, Editor of *The Tailor and Cutter*. He prophesied that men would sooner or later lose a garment, because overcoats are becoming shorter and more truncated and seem likely to replace the conventional jacket.

His dream seems to have materialised in one of the new 1967 creations by Hardy Amies (*pictured below*). It consists of a three-piece outfit in green and red check tweed, where the jacket is notably absent. The three matching garments are a Raglan mini-coat, waistcoat and slacks. The jackocoat (we might as well nip in ahead of the designers and lexicographers and coin a new word) is fairly conventional with rounded collar and single-breasted front, and the waistcoat has no collar, and eight buttons with flap fob pockets.

The trousers emphasise the para-military look in clothes with what appear to be sappers' map pockets on either leg.

The whole set costs approximately £20, and is available at the Regent Street branch of Hepworths. For my money, it is a stunningly smart outfit.

THE latest model for replica reproduction is none other than Napoleon Bonaparte. Lew Rose of Savile Row has designed a Napoleonic overcoat with "overtones of the heavy great-coats worn by soldiers in the 19th century." It is hand-tailored, with vast lapels which can be buttoned at the neck, large pocket flaps, and flared cuffs. The six crowded buttons have just enough space between them to slip in the right hand in Napoleonic fashion. This long, long coat is made of Tyrolean loden cloth, in dark blue or Lovat green, and costs 26 guineas. As Napoleon himself said to the Polish ambassador after his flight from Moscow in 1812, "From the sublime to the ridiculous, there is but a single step." I am sure, however, that it will prove a popular garment. A masculine answer to the Zhivago craze.

WHEN foreigners mention the English look in clothes, they visualise a constantly changing series of optical stunts and refracted colours. There is, however, an English look which is rarely mentioned but always in existence. It is the traditional hunting, shooting and fishing jacket in tweed. There used to be a saying – rarely heard now – that the Englishman's sports jacket is his uniform. Aquascutum have produced a slightly more contemporary version in all wool Scottish tweed, called the "Rambler." It has twin side vents, and three buttoned and flapped pockets, split by attractive central seams. It is the sort of jacket I admire from a distance, but would never wear because it seems to belong to some symbolic, idealised past. However for the less sensitive in this direction, it is available at Aquascutum, from 17 gns.

This seems to be a week of fulfilled prophecies. Last week, I discussed the possible evolution of men's clothing towards a Spanish-style jacket where the lower half is shortened above the waist-line to prevent creasing and to facilitate movement. Smart Weston have introduced a semi-formal blouse (above left) in double-breasted green corduroy, at 7 guineas. I regard this preview of the future as abhorrent, and deliberately sought out the longest and most decadent coat (right) I could find. I was delighted to discover that Irvine Sellars have resurrected a vestige from our Teddy Boy past. It is double-breasted, and comes in striped tweed, with velvet collar and pocket flaps. It is a great buy for 14 guineas, because you will irk swingers and squares alike – provided it is worn purely as a jacket.

ANOTHER man-made material joins the growing ranks. It is known as Syn skin denim, and consists of a cotton denim with a thermo-plastic coating. It looks like a luxurious version of pvc, and will be available next spring in a series of articles of men's clothing by Barrow, Hepburn and Gale. Among the articles in Syn skin will be a shiny blue coat with a small collar and large, flapped pockets, at £5 9s 6d from Glamye, and a matching peaked cap at 15s 11d, from Thornton.

A new suit by Burton's solves the problem of trying to make a conventionally lengthed jacket appear extra long and flared. It has high lapels, with three closely spaced buttons immediately below, so that the rest of the jacket hangs straight downwards. The buttons are slightly off-centre to give a double-breasted look, and the front is kept secure by a concealed button at the waist. The suit is made to measure in a navy blue twill wool for £28.

How many of you have laughed heartily at the cinema advertisement for that all American boot which jumps into puddles and shakes itself free of mud and slush like a irritated duck – all this to the accompaniment of a husky male choir? Personally, I would feel slightly foolish if I had to go into a shop and ask for a pair of you-know-what, because no doubt there would be amusing quips from the salesman. However, I discovered a similar style of shoes – without the embarrassing associations – in the Edward Lewis collection of Westover driving shoes. It is called the "tourer," and is available in brown sueded pigskin. It stays secure on the foot with lace-ups, and is durable, tough, masculine, and all that. It costs 95s retail.

A selection of shirts by Harry Fenton with extra-long buttoned collars reaching far down towards the chest. They come in a whole range of suffused pastel shades, varying from lilac to yellow. These restfully flamboyant shirts cost between 49s 6d and 70s.

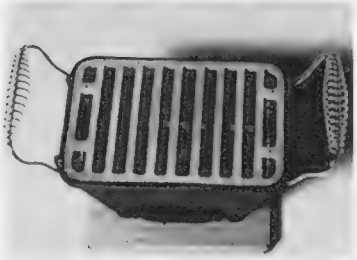
Following the success of the lime tang to Old Spice after-shave and cologne. Shulton have introduced a lime body talcum and a lime aerosol deodorant to the range.

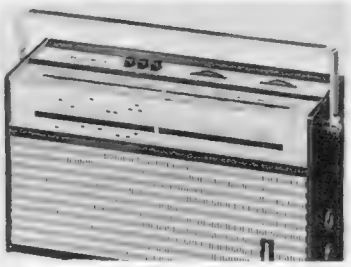
NEW THINGS

by SHEILA FITZJONES

Above left: Ikon Glass Chiller – each container can chill 60 to 80 glasses: 49s 11d. Refills are 7s 6d. From Selfridges. **Above right:** Cocktail mixer . . push "mix" side of switch and drinks are automatically blended; push "pour" side and it automatically pours required amount. Operates on two one-cell batteries: 3 guineas from Fortnums.

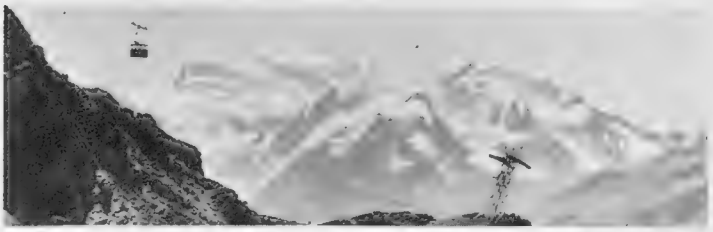
Left: Minipress for ensuring that home-made hamburgers turn out the right shape. Comes with a 12-page booklet suggesting different burger recipes: 27s 6d, from William Page, Shaftesbury Avenue.





Above left: Mini-barbecue, for use on table or picnics: £1 17s 6d, from Fortnums. **Above right:** From Bush – a brand new, low-price, high-quality performance transistor radio, nicknamed "Bush Baby." It has a bandspread button for easy tuning to the pirates and also a logging scale for tracking hard to get stations: 12½ guineas.

Above: Grater-and-bowl combined, by Gaydon: 12s 11d. **Left:** Sea-saver jacket: has a special lining which gives buoyancy in water; built-in lung that can be inflated in emergency and a battery-operated light which works immersed in water when cord is pulled: £22 from Simpsons.



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Further information from your TRAVEL AGENT: the Swiss National Tourist Office, 458 Strand, London, W.C.2, or the Valais Tourist Office, Sion, Valais, Switzerland

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NEW LINE IN EXPORTS – THOSE OLD TAXIS

When London taxis are 10 years old, they are gracefully retired and taken off the streets. Somewhere, one may imagine, there is a sort of elephants' graveyard – a scrap-heap for old taxis. This is not so, actually – though some taxis do wind up on scrap heaps, scattered around London.

But anyone can buy one – they cost between £80 and £120 – according to their condition. An ideal family vehicle – father out front driving, children with plenty of space to sprawl in the back; luggage strapped on the outside. One is not, though, allowed to ply for hire.

Few people bother to seek them out. But one man has started doing this, and has discovered a neat little outlet for old cabs. He is Mr Cyril Wilds, who runs a car hire firm in High Road, Finchley. In a sort of one-man export drive, Mr Wilds buys up good specimens of London taxis and sells them to America.

"Americans are all a bit barmy," says Mr Wilds. "They'll do anything for a gimmick. I've made lots of American friends in my 35 years of business – I've driven them about the country, up to Stratford and so on, so I have lots of contacts. My wife and I went over to America for a holiday and I managed to sell an old London taxi to a firm in Massachusetts who make tweed.

"They use the cab for delivering their goods to customers – you know, British tweeds in a London taxi. I have discovered a number of private buyers as well. For one of them I got hold of a meter. Of course, it ticks up the fare in pounds, shillings and pence – you can imagine how the Americans love that."

It costs about £130 to send a cab to America; they have to be driven to the docks and steam-cleaned. Now Mr Wilds is running a further extension to his activities – he is looking out for Rolls-Royce cars, vintage 1926-1930. "There's a great market in the States for them," he says.

HOW TO BE THE COMPLETE LONDON LIFER

Do you really deserve what's coming to you in the New Year?

1967 will be even fuller of warm temptations and cool aspirations than was 1966. ROGER BAKER helps you to find out how you will shape up to them.

1.

On New Year's Eve you are discovered standing naked in a fountain in Trafalgar Square. You will say to the policeman:

(a) Happy New Year

(b) It was the fresh air what did it, officer

(c) Ils sont tres broadminded, ces swinging Anglaises, n'est ce pas?

2.

You will be likely to spend New Year's Eve:

(a) in a small but favoured restaurant

(b) at a splendid ball

(c) milling around in the streets

3.

The sort of New Year resolutions you tend to make are:

(a) the wildly impossible (like: I will beat the underwater swimming record)

(b) the sort you ought to make, but know you won't maintain beyond 6 January (like: I will give up smoking/drinking/girls/men)

(c) the sort you know you can safely maintain (like: I will buy *London Life* each week)

4.

To you, "first footing" means:

(a) the moment 10-month-old Jeremy makes his first dear little steps

(b) the moment 17-year-old Susie proved she could quick-step better than her father

(c) traipsing around clutching bread and coal in the snow

5.

Do you tend to regard the year that's just left as:

(a) good riddance to bad . . .

(b) a sad passing of a happy time

(c) a blank, my Lord

6.

Do you tend to regard the year that's starting as:

(a) one in which you'll be another year older?

(b) an opportunity to start again?

(c) a happy continuation of existing tranquillity?

7.

Your 1967 holiday plans are, at the moment:

(a) I shall have to stay in the sterling area, so I'll try Bermuda

(b) to keep within the £50 I'll have to hitch-hike to Barcelona

(c) Inverness is nice during September

8.

In 1966 you think we have heard too much about:

(a) Julie Christie, Jean Shrimpton, Twiggy

(b) LSD, gunmen, jail-breaks

(c) Aubrey Beardsley, Lady Macbeth, Noah's ark

9.

1966 will be souvenired for you by:

(a) *Bang-bang, Tears, Pretty Flamingo*

(b) Ian Smith, George Brown David Frost

(c) Mini-skirts, trouser-suits wide ties

10.

Have you done any of the following things during 1966 Tick them off:

(a) fallen downstairs at Samanthas

(b) fallen upstairs at the Royal Opera House

(c) sent Prince Charles a birthday card

(d) been to Alvaro's

(e) not been to Alvaro's

(f) consulted David Hicks about your dining-room decor

(g) missed out on *London Life's* analysis of Batman

(h) bought another house in the country

(i) sold your mink

(j) been to the top of the Post Office tower for a private function

HOW TO SCORE:

1. (a) 10 (b) 0 (c) 6
2. (a) 10 (b) 6 (c) 0
3. (a) 10 (b) 0 (c) 6
4. (a) 6 (b) 6 (c) 8
5. (a) 0 (b) 5 (c) 0
6. (a) 0 (b) 8 (c) 10
7. (a) 10 (b) 6 (c) 0
8. (a) 10 (b) 6 (c) 5
9. (a) 4 (b) 8 (c) 0
10. Score 2 marks each for b, d, f, h, j. Lose 2 marks each for a, c, e, g, i.

HOW YOU RATE:

91–70: what a splendid, balanced, optimistic fellow you are – enjoying life with no regrets, pushing on and looking forward

40–65: life disturbs you very slightly: you enjoy the access of emotions brought about by New Year's Eve and make great plans – but they tend to tail off or get forgotten, don't they?

11–40: poor sad thing; browbeaten, wandering, insecure and rudderless. Your resolution should be to be resolute

THE BRIDES

Miss Jane Dewey (right), daughter of the late Mr T L Dewey, and Mrs Andrew Mackenzie-Ross of Poole, Dorset, was married to Capt David Younger, Queen's Own Hussars, son of Maj-Gen and Mrs Ralph Younger of Melrose, Roxburghshire, at Chelsea Old Church, SW3. *Photo: Portman Press Bureau*

Miss Rosemary Marindin (below), daughter of the late Mr F J de Vere Marindin, and Mrs Marindin of Oxford and Cambridge Mansions, NW1, was married to Lt Colin Morris, son of Lt-Col and Mrs Rodney Morris of Pirbright, Surrey, at St Giles-in-the-Fields, Holborn. *Photo: Society Wedding Press*

Miss Christine Cobbold (above), stepdaughter of Lt-Col Peter Clifton, married Capt Christopher Haines at St Michael's, Chester Sq. *Photo: Peter Hart*

Miss Susan Farquhar (above), daughter of Mrs P M Farquhar and Lt-Col N P Farquhar of Canberra, Australia, was married to Mr Brian Sennett, at St Clement Danes. *Photo: Portman Press Bureau.*

Miss Jane Beverley Shepherd (right), daughter of Mr Francis Shepherd, was married to Mr Christopher Beaumont Sanders, son of Col Terence Beaumont Sanders, at St Edward's, Windsor. *Photo: Portman Press Bureau*

Miss Maria Simoni (left), daughter of Mr and Mrs Darius Simoni of Rome, was married to Capt Michael Owen, son of Mr and Mrs Owen of Swanwick Shore, Hants, at St Mary's, Cadogan Street.

IT LOOKS LIKE BEING THE YEAR OF THE STAMP

That there is money in stamps is no news. Every child, every embryo philatelist, dreams of discovering that immensely valuable stamp among the bag of mixed samples he buys. This is not, of course, the prime motive among stamp collectors – they have many other inducements, social, geographical, historical.

But reading through the report of H R Harmer Ltd, on their 48th season of stamp auctions, makes one wonder if money is not a potent thought. The season's sales have already brought £224,487 on the first eight auctions.

The season opened with a £21,000 sale, followed in early October by one for the more outstanding Great Britain issues (£29,700), with both classic and modern rarities making high prices. More than £14,000 was added later for choice Commonwealth issues.

What the firm calls "unprepossessing" stamps from Libya and Somaliland (parcel post stamps) went for £3,800 – and they had been originally bought by a sharp-eyed philatelist for around £60. The sale in which these stamps were auctioned fetched over £40,000. The November figure topped £90,000 and a three-day sale in December realised £25,547, bringing the figure for 1966 auctions to £582,703.

The firm is looking forward to the New Year with optimism. This week (2, 3 January) there is all British North America, notably Newfoundland with a rarity – the MS Martinsyde – on cover. Dr Joseph Shlosberg's Commonwealth follows the same week, strong in 20th century high value. Later in the month comes superb European classic imperforates – in a sale of more than 360 lots.

And so it goes – a year of planning: "Many more outstanding collections of high calibre are coming up for the Harmer's later sales," they report.

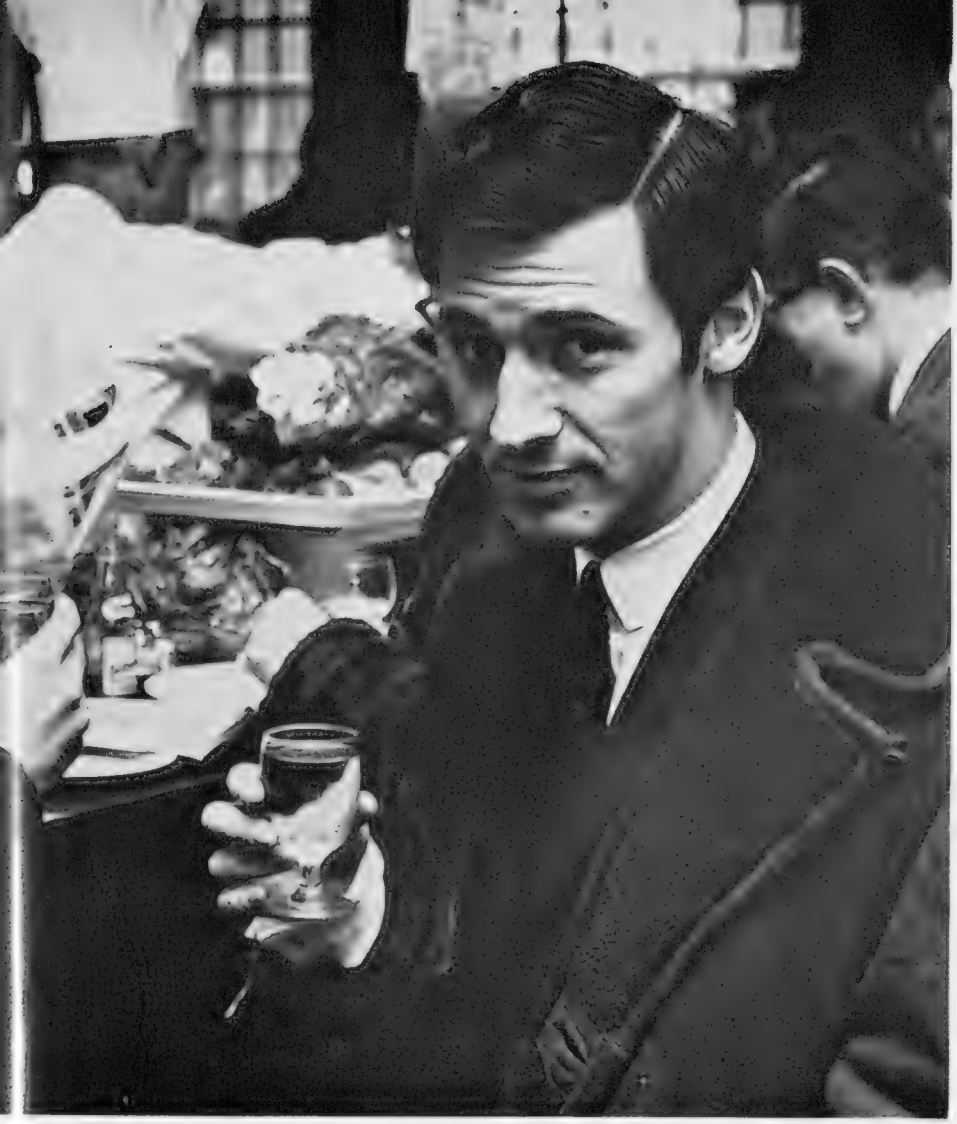
WITH NEW YEAR'S EVE . . .

WHAT PEOPLE ARE DRINKING

Robert Amram (right), who directed *Dolly Story* and is also director of a new company which produces TV series and commercials, is drinking a Chablis with oysters at a pub in Shepherd Market, with Finnish model Eva. **Lady Elizabeth Anson,** (below), who runs Party Planners, drinking a Flame Thrower: this is made up of equal parts vodka and whisky and a dash of green ginger.

Michael Broadbent (below), Mas r of Wines and head of the Wine Tasti g Department of Christies, sampling n old vintage port. Mr Broadbent, w o admits a passion for vintage po t, believes that interest is awakeni g again for this satisfying drink.

. . . A GLASS AWAY



Mrs John Michael (above) finds vodka and creme de menthe her favourite drink, said she couldn't really describe it other than: "The first drink you don't notice at all; but you notice the second . . ." **Warren Gold** (left), owner of Lord John of Carnaby Street, says he always drinks two raw eggs first thing in the morning and claims it is the healthiest drink he knows. **Stephen Spurrier** (below), director in charge of buying for Murray & Banbury Ltd, who supply all the drinks at Sibylla's. Stephen is tasting a champagne, vintage '57, called "Prince André de Bourbon Parme." It is one of the most expensive champagnes and is specially blended for the prince.

THEATRE

The revival of Frederick Lonsdale's 1927 comedy *On Approval* puts me in a spot. On one hand, I feel that revivals of the plays of the teens and twenties, the Maugham-Coward belt, are very much to be desired. So much expert writing, so many playable parts should not merely be aired now and then by enterprising reps, but should – like Shakespeare – be constantly paraded in the West End. On the other hand, having now got one, I don't like it very much; it gave me considerably less pleasure than it has apparently given many of my colleagues.

On Approval is sharply written and neatly constructed and avoids a sentimental conclusion simply by ending three weeks too soon – the trick that leaves the two principals isolated in mutual hate may *not* work. Nor is it particularly dated (I'll swear I've seen the girls' dresses at three parties at least already this month); the terms of reference are something we have rejected but not forgotten. And it is free of those melodramatic overtones that infect

Barbara Murray takes over from Honor Blackman in the starring role of the blind wife in "Wait until Dark" at the Strand on 23 January.

Maugham's *The Circle*, another roughly contemporaneous play seen not too long ago. On paper, then, a delight.

In performance, however, something has happened. The main reason for my discomfort is, I think, that the director Murray Macdonald has not achieved perfect unity among his quartet of players; the type of one-mind-thinking that Noël Coward induced for the National Theatre's revival of his own *Hay Fever*. This is more than training actors to act like a well-matched tennis four. Dulcie Gray, for example, seems out on a limb. Her voice occasionally swoops into a sub-Gingold register for no better reason than a throaty remark at that point may get a laugh. In this way she so often seems to be sending her role up. Polly Adams is stylish and pretty, but again, seems unconvinced.

Which leaves the men, and some beautiful playing from the eternally youthful Michael Denison, absolutely splendid as the selfish, boorish Duke; and Robert Flemyng equally potent as the nervous little man who finds himself actually proposing to the rich, bossy female he has adored for years in silence. Both men play for real, and their scenes together make the play live again as it should.

roger baker

WEST END

current

ALADDIN, Jeanetta Cochrane, Southampton Row, WC1 (CHA 7040). Clifford Heap's Marionette Theatre. 2.30. Ends 7 Jan

ALIBI FOR A JUDGE, Savoy, Strand, WC2 (TEM 8888). Andrew Cruickshank is the high court judge involved with the pretty wife of a man he's just sent down. 8.0 (ends 10.30). W Mat: 2.30 (ends 4.50). Sat Mat: 5.30 (ends 7.20). Opened 4 Aug 1965

THE BED-SITTING ROOM, Mermaid, Puddle Dock, Blackfriars (CIT 7656). The original Spike Milligan show; written, directed and starring Spike. 8.40. Open 10 Oct 1966.

BERTRAM MILLS' CIRCUS, Grand Hall, Olympia, W14 (FUL 3333). Last season at Olympia with Coco the Clown, The Schumann family and their horses, Ruppert's

Jon Pertwee plays the thoughtful editor for whom Donald Sinden works in "There's A Girl In My Soup."

Bears and other acts. Th, F, Sat and W: 1.45, 4.45, 7.45. M and T: 2.30, 7.30. Ends 21 Jan

BIG BAD MOUSE, Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (TEM 6596). Eric Sykes and Jimmy Edwards in a play full of vast laughs. M-Th: 8.15 (ends 10.15). F and Sat: 6.15 (ends 8.15) and 8.45 (ends 10.45). Opened 17 Oct 1966.

BLACK AND WHITE MINSTREL SHOW, Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, W1 (VIC 1317). It should make a fair television show this. 6.15 (ends 8.30); 8.45 (ends 10.50). Opened 15 May 1962

BOEING-BOEING, Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (TEM 8243). Peter Byrne (TV's Andy Crawford) juggles old school friend, three air hostesses and eccentric maid in and out of various doors. 8.0 (ends 10.10). W Mat: 2.45 (ends 4.50). Sat Mat: 5.15 (ends 7.20). Opened 20 Feb 1962. Ends 7 Jan

CHARLIE GIRL, Adelphi, Strand, WC2 (TEM 7611). Anna Neagle singing and dancing; Joe Brown and Hy Hazell ditto in a summertime Cinderella fable. 7.30 (ends 10.10). Th: 3.0 (ends 5.30). Sat: 5.30 (ends 8.0); 8.30 (ends 11.0.). Opened 15 Dec 1965

CINDERELLA, London Palladium, Argyle Street, W1 (GER 7373). New panto, with Cliff Richard and the Shadows, Terry Scott, Hugh Lloyd, Pippa Steel, Jack Douglas, Peter Gilmore. 2.45, 7.30

COME SPY WITH ME, Whitehall, Trafalgar Square, W1 (WHI 6692). Danny La Rue changes his drag a dozen times but Barbara Windsor does get a look in during the high camp routines. 8.0 (ends 10.30). Sat: 5.30 (ends 8.0), 8.30 (ends 11.0). Opened 31 May 1966

THE FIGHTING COCK, Duke of York's, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (TEM 5122). John Clements and Sarah Badel in elegant Anouilh from the Chichester Festival. 8.0 (ends 10.30). Sat Mat: 4.45 (ends 7.15). Th Mat: 2.45 (ends 5.15). Opened 25 Oct 1966

GIVE A DOG A BONE, Westminster, Palace Street, SW1 (VIC 0283). Christmas show with Richard Warner, Bryan Coleman, Sandra Michaels, Ivor Danvers, Ronnie Stevens. T-F: 7.30 (ends 9.50). W and Th Mats: 2.30 (ends 4.50). Sat: 2.30 (ends 4.50), 6.30 (ends 8.50). Opened 8 Dec 1966

HELLO DOLLY! Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, WC2 (TEM 8108). The transatlantic bombshell has become a touch cosy with Dora Bryan wow-wow-wowing. 7.30 (ends 10.0). W and Sat Mats: 2.30 (ends 5.0). Opened 2 Dec 1965

AN IDEAL HUSBAND, Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (TEM 4601). Margaret Lockwood and Richard Todd amid the Wildest epigrams. 7.45. W Mat: 3.0. Sat: 5.0, 8.30. Ends 21 Jan

THE IMPOSSIBLE YEARS, Cambridge, Earlham Street, Cambridge Circus, WC2 (TEM 6056). David Tomlinson as a father of a difficult teenager. 8.0 (ends 10.0). Th Mat: 2.45 (ends 4.45). Sat: 6.0 (ends 8.0); 8.30 (ends 10.30). Opened 24 Nov 1966

IN THE MATTER OF J ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, Fortune, Russell Street, WC2 (TEM 2238). Robert Harris as an atom scientist persecuted over Communist associations. 8.0. W and Sat Mats: 2.45. Opened 28 Nov 1966

JORROCKS, New, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (TEM 3878). Joss Ackland makes an endearing hero in a colourful and appealing musical. 8.0 (ends 10.45). T and Sat Mats: 4.15 (ends 7.0). Opened 22 Sept 1966

JUSTICE IS A WOMAN, Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (TEM 4871). Constance Cummings returns to the West End as a lady barrister defending a case in Scotland. 8.0 (ends 10.30). W Mat: 2.45 (ends 5.21). Sat Mat: 5.0 (ends 7.36). Opened 16 Nov

LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN, Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (TEM 8611). Coral Browne sweeps devastatingly through a slice of Beaton-designed Wilde. 8.0 (ends 10.30). W Mat: 2.30 (ends 5.0). Sat: 5.30 (ends 8.0); 8.30 (ends 11.0). Opened 13 Oct

THE LAND OF GREEN GINGER, New Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (TEM 3334). Unicorn Theatre Company. For children 5 to 12 years. M-Sun: 2.30. Closed 2 Jan. Ends 8 Jan

LET'S GET A DIVORCE, Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (WHI 2578). Fenella Fielding, Hugh Paddick and Barry Foster in an admired English version of a Sardou comedy. 8.30 (ends 10.40). W and Sat Mats: 6.0 (ends 8.10). Opened 26 July 1966

THE LION AND THE JEWEL, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (SLO 1745). Conflict between old and new values in a Nigerian village. 7.30 (ends 9.45). Sat: 5.0 (ends 7.15), 8.0 (ends 10.15). Opened 12 Dec

LOOT, Criterion, Piccadilly (WHI 3216). Charles Marowitz directs Joe Orton's controversial play. 8.15. Th and Sat: 6.0, 8.45.

MAN OF MAGIC, Piccadilly, opp Regent Palace Hotel, W1 (GER 4506). Entertaining Houdini musical which suffers from lack of dramatic tension. 7.45 (ends 10.20). W Mat: 3.0 (ends 5.35). Sat: 5.30 (ends 8.5); 8.30 (ends 11.5). Opened 15 Nov 1966

THE MOUSETRAP, Ambassadors, West End, WC3 (TEM 1171). After 14 years still a mystery. 8.0 (ends 10.30). T: 2.45 (ends 5.20). Sat: 5.0 (ends 7.30).

THE ODD COUPLE, Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (REG 1166). Neil Simon's hilarious study of two husbands sharing a flat. 8.0 (ends 10.5). Th Mat: 2.30 (ends

Sheila Ballantyne plays he only woman in "Loot" at he Criterion – an eliptical le in a funny, knocking play

4.35). Sat: 6.0 (ends 8.5); 8.30 (nds 10.35). Opened 12 Oct

ON APPROVAL, St Mar n's, West Street, Cambridge Ci us, WC2 (TEM 1443). Frederick L sdale revival. *Looks* 1927, out *sounds* a little tired; a comec of trial-marriage. 8.0. T Mat: 3.0. at: 5.30, 8.30. Opened 15 Dec 1966

PETER PAN, Scala, Cha tte Street, W1 (MUS 5731). Auth ; J M Barrie. Dir: James Ve er. Cast: Julia Lockwood, Mia M in, Ron Moody. 2.0, 6.30. Ends 21 an

PINOCCHIO, Criterion, Picca lly (WHI 3216). The puppet ho wanted to be a real boy. 2.3 Th and Sat Mats: 11.0 am. Ends 1 Jan

THE PRIME OF MISS J AN BRODIE, Wyndham's, Ch ing Cross Road, WC2 (TEM 28). Anna Massey in the title-rol 8.0 (ends 10.15). Sat: 5.45 (ends .0); 8.30 (ends 10.45). W Mat: 3.0 nds 5.15). Opened 5 May 1966

THE RIVALS, Theatre R yal, Haymarket, SW1 (WHI 32). Ralph Richardson and Mar aret Rutherford in some stylish S eridan. 7.45 (ends 10.15). W Mat 2.30 (ends 5.0). Sat: 5.0 (ends 7.30) 8.15 (ends 10.45). Opened 6 Oct

ROBERT AND ELIZABETH, L ric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (GER 3686). Musical version of The Barretts of Wimpole Street. onventional in harmony and style, but as comfortable as hot chocolate at bedtime. 7.30 (ends 10.25). Th and Sat Mats: 2.30 (ends 5.25). Opened 20 Oct 1964

SAY WHO YOU ARE, Her Majesty's, Haymarket, SW1 (WHI 6606). Ian Carmichael and Patrick Cargill have women trouble, not aided by the insufficiencies of the telephone. M-Th: 8.15 (ends 10.25). F, Sat: 6.0 (ends 8.10); 8.45 (ends 10.55). Opened 14 Oct 1965

SLEEPING BEAUTY ON ICE, Wembley, Empire Pool, Middlx (WEM 1234). Nancy Lee Parker as Princess Beauty, Nickie Powers as the Prince. 3.0, 7.45. Sat: 2.0, 5.0, 8.0. Opened 26 Dec

SOOTY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW, May Fair, May Fair Hotel, Stratton

Street, W1 (MAY 3036). With Harry Corbett, Sweep etc. 2.30, 4.30. Sat: 2.30, 4.30, 6.30. Ends 14 Jan

THE SOUND OF MUSIC, Palace, Cambridge Circus, W1 (GER 6834). The hills are alive with it, and not only that, they've been alive since 10 May 1961. 7.30 (ends 10.25). W and Sat Mats: 2.30 (ends 5.15). Ends 14 Jan

SPRING AND PORT WINE, Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (GER 2663). Bill Naughton's study of a family rebelling against the heavy father, who is Alfred Marks. 8.0 (ends 10.15). Th and Sat Mats: 6.0 (ends 8.15); 8.45 (ends 10.55). Opened 19 Nov 1966

THERE'S A GIRL IN MY SOUP, Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (GER 1592). Barbara Ferris is a sweet little Chelsea bird who meets Donald Sinden, an up-stage cookery writer. Funny and sharp 8.15 (ends 10.30). W: 2.30 (ends 4.45). Sat: 6.0 (ends 8.15); 8.45 (ends 11.0). Opened 15 June

THE THIRTEEN CLOCKS, New Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (TEM 3334). Author: James Thurber. Dir: Caryl Jenner. Unicorn Theatre Company. Fantasy play for older children and adults. 7.30. Ends 7 Jan

TOAD OF TOAD HALL, Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (WHI 2578). Author: A A Milne from Kenneth Graham. Martin Friend as Toad

Richard Wattis intones his songs and joins in the general campery of "Come Spy With Me" at the Whitehall Theatre.

with Richard Goolden, John Woodvine, Bernard Hopkins. 2.0 and 4.45. W and Sat: 11.30, 2.30. Ends 21 Jan

TREASURE ISLAND, Mermaid, Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, EC4 (CIT 7656). Author: Robert Louis Stevenson. Cast: Bernard Miles, Len Jones. 2.30, 5.15. Ends 21 Jan

THE THWARTING OF BARON BOLLIGREW, Aldwych, Strand, WC2 (TEM 6404). Author: Robert Bolt. Dir: Trevor Nunn. Roy Kinnear as the infamous Baron. 2.30. Ends 7 Jan

WAIT UNTIL DARK, Strand, Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (TEM 4143). Honor Blackman returns to the stage as the blind wife of a photographer involved in dope-peddling. 7.45 (ends 10.5). Th: 3.0 (ends 5.20). Sat: 5.30 (ends 7.50); 8.30 (ends 10.50). Opened 27 July

WAY OUT IN PICCADILLY, Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (WHI 8681). Stars: Frankie Howerd, Cilla Black. 8.0 (ends 10.30). W, Th, Sat: 6.10 (ends 8.40); 8.45 (ends 11.15). Opened 3 Nov

WHO'S PINKUS, WHERE'S CHELM? Jeanetta Cochrane, Southampton Row, WC1 (CHA 7040). Bernard Bresslaw as the successful salesman in a town of idiots. 7.45. Opened 27 Dec

OUT OF TOWN

LEATHERHEAD THEATRE CLUB, High Street, Leatherhead, Surrey (537-2852). QUEEN OF HEARTS. Traditional family pantomime. 2.30, 7.30 (not T evening)

OXFORD PLAYHOUSE, Beaumont Street, Oxford (0092-47133). Until Sat 31 Dec: SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER by Goldsmith. 7.45. Sat: 5.0, 8.15
From M 2 Jan: GHOSTS by Ibsen. Gripping masterpiece of long-buried shames. 7.45

YVONNE ARNAUD, Millbrook, Guildford, Surrey (0483-60191). THE SLEEPING BEAUTY with Sally Smith, John Fraser. 7.15. Th, Sat, M and T Mats: 2.30

REPERTORY

NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY, Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (WAT 7616). Th 29 Dec: A FLEA IN HER EAR, by Feydeau. A prototype in-and-out-of-doors farce. 2.15 (ends 4.45); 7.30 (ends 10.0)
F 30 Dec: A BOND HONOURED by Osborne and BLACK COMEDY by Shaffer. One of the most controversial plays of recent months paired with the funniest. 7.30 (ends 10.30)
Sat 31 Dec: OTHELLO. Olivier's greatest impersonation. Sat: 2.15 (ends 5.20). W: 7.30 (ends 10.40)
Sat 31 Dec: THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN. Peter Shaffer's epic treatment of the Spanish conquest of Peru. 7.30 (ends 10.30).

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY, Aldwych, Strand, WC2 (TEM 6404). Th 29 Dec-W 4 Jan: THE THWARTING OF BARON BOLLIGREW by Robert Bolt, with Roy Kinnear as the arch-villain. 2.30
Th 29, F 30, Sat 31 Dec, W 4 Jan: STAIRCASE by Charles Dyer. Patrick Magee and Paul Scofield portray two homosexuals in a barber's shop. 7.30 (ends 9.40)

PERIMETER

ASHCROFT, Fairfield Hall, Croydon (CRO 9291). JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, with Jim Dale. 2.30, 7.30

GOLDERS GREEN HIPPODROME, NW11 (SPE 0022). ROBINSON CRUSOE. 2.30, 7.0

INTIMATE, Palmers Green, N13 (PAL 3798). DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT. 2.0, 5.0. F 30 Dec: 2.30, 7.30. Sat 31 Dec: 2.0, 5.0, 8.0

NEW, High Street, Bromley, Kent (RAV 6677). ROBINSON CRUSOE. 2.30, 7.15

PALACE, Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts (92-25671). CINDERELLA. F and Sat: 2.30, 7.30. M-Th 2.30, 5.30

RICHMOND, The Green, Richmond, Surrey (RIC 0088). PUSS IN BOOTS. 2.30, 7.0. Sat: 1.45, 5.0, 8.15

WIMBLEDON, SW19 (WIM 2511). BABES IN THE WOOD with Arthur Askey, Roy Castle, Lulu. 2.30, 7.0

CLUBS

HAMPSTEAD, 98 Avenue Road, NW3 (PRI 9301). CIRCUS ADVENTURE by Unicorn Theatre Company. 2.30 THE BALLAD OF THE FALSE BARMAN. 8.0. Sat: 5.0, 8.15

LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE THEATRE, 14 Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, N1 (CAN 1787). HANS THE BELLRINGER. 3.0. Sat: 3.0, 5.30. A show for the very young. Sat: 11.0

PLAYERS, Villiers Street, Strand, WC2 (TRA 1134). WHITTINGTON JUNIOR AND HIS SENSATIONAL CAT. M and T: 8.0. W-Sat: 9.0

BOOKS

The Galleon Fountain inside the Vatican Gardens: from "The Waters of Rome" (Michael Joseph, 63s).

Books are expensive abroad – especially when translated into English. So a useful economy for the traveller is to buy the most up-to-date British book on the country he is visiting before he goes. A recently published book has a great advantage over a classic which has been translated into English and made generally available in expensive tourist book shops. Books to travel with can be merely guides, or they can be about a country from a particular and specific angle which can be read with equal pleasure by the fireside traveller.

Anyone contemplating visiting Rome, Vienna, Paris or Egypt is blessed this year with the publication of such a book. H V Morton's *The Waters of Rome* (Michael Joseph, 63s) looks at the Eternal City with the exact eyes of a specialist and from a point of view which strikes even the most casual traveller – her fountains. In this very specific theme there is a unity, because, though the first fountain was built as late as 1453, all the waters of Rome are fed by the aquaducts of Ancient Rome.

Ilsa Barea's *Vienna* (Secker and Warburg, 55s) is similarly a work of love and specialist knowledge. The author was born in Vienna, and was a leader of her generation in the stormy '20s and '30s. Her book examines Vienna from the city's greatest aspect, her past; but there is a chapter devoted to the future. Sir Anthony Glyn, who says that the Seine colours his whole life, has published a study of all the country the river passes through *(The Seine,* Weidenfeld and Nicolson).

Lord Kinross's *Portrait of Egypt* (André Deutsch, 36s) is a glossy, compact, eminently readable introduction to Egypt, the city of the Pharaohs. Christian Egypt, medieval and then modern Egypt are in turn examined with the authority that comes from close association. He has pursued his researches into out-of-the-way desert villages, and the photographs by Roger Wood and Henry Fischer are outstanding.

carole d'albiac

GENERAL TRAVEL BOOKS

THE SUNDAY TIMES TRAVEL AND HOLIDAY GUIDE. The best-value general guide, 575 pages of precise information about what to see, where to eat, how to get there, whether you are motorist, coach-addict, or prefer to cruise. The book is mainly divided into countries, including sections for the Soviet Union and Turkey. It was first compiled 15 years ago, and was revised and extended this year. Contributors include Richard Church, Elizabeth David, Harold Hobson, André Simon. Published by Nelson, 30s

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE series. Compact, reliable guide books with up-to-date information. The series was started last year with the publication of *Sicily* and has since been extended to include *Finland, Sardinia* and *Malta.* Published by Jonathan Cape, 25s each

WORLD CITIES by Peter Hall. Puts the great cities of the world – London, Paris, the Rhine, Moscow, New York and Tokyo – and their growth problems into a useful comparative perspective. Published by World University Library series, 14s in paperback

THE EUROPEAN IDEA by Lord Gladwyn. A passionate advocate of European unity describes the development and possibilities of Europe from Charlemagne to the Treaty of Rome. Published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 25s

TABOO by Armand Denis. Subtitled "a study of sex and morality throughout the world," the book deals mainly with the customs of primitive societies, notably India, China, Japan, Tahiti. Published by W H Allen, 30s

SPECIFIC TRAVEL

A GUIDE TO THE ART TREASURES OF FRANCE. Beautifully produced and especially good on ecclesiastical architecture, for enthusiasts wandering through France. Published by Methuen, 75s

LETTERS FROM GOURGOUNEL by Kenneth White. A poet's eye-view of rural life in South-east France, perfect for escapists. Published by Jonathan Cape, 18s

PALLADIO by James S Ackerman. A study of the architect who was born in Padua in 1508 and who became perhaps the most influential in history. Published by Penguin Books, 12s 6d

ISLAND AT THE END OF THE WORLD by Bernard Gorsky. A successful search for Paradise in modern times, on the remote island of Mouli, one of the Loyalty Islands off New Caledonia. Published by Hart-Davis, 50s

TOWARDS A PAX AFRICANA by Ali A Mazrui. A topical book on contemporary Africa discusses the basis and problems of African nationalism. Published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 40s

FILMS

Originality is perhaps the quality that has been most missing from what has been undeniably a lean year in the cinema. And neither of 1966's last two openings does anything to reverse the trend; in fact, very much the opposite. Even though *Gambit* (U, Odeon, Leicester Square, from 28 December) is as taut an edge-of-seat thriller as we've seen for months, it leans so heavily on *Topkapi* and *How to Steal a Million* (even the electric eyes surrounding the desired object) as to endanger one's enjoyment of the whole.

Michael Caine is the robber-in-black who plans, with the assistance of Shirley MacLaine (but only because she loves him), to relieve millionaire Herbert Lom of a priceless statue. The film starts with the plan as it would be if it went to perfection, so that we know from the outset what's going to happen to the best-laid plans – but, strangely, this doesn't take the edge away from the suspense. Ronald Neame's direction frays away the nerves, the cutting is commendable, and the story-line keeps giving out with another twist to wind us back to fingernail level.

Miss MacLaine is deliciously back to form as the girl who slides between bars like a gymnastic eel, but Caine gives a superficial performance that isn't nearly tight enough.

● What Sapper fans will make of the Bondised exploits of Bulldog Drummond in *Deadlier Than the Male* (X, Leicester Square Theatre, from 29 December) I dread to imagine. Richard Johnson makes a brave attempt to keep up with the original concept of Drummond amid a mass of exploding metallic gadgets and hardly clad girls.

Nigel Green is a suitably sinister Peterson, and his giant chess set is quite a good thought, although even this smacks slightly of desperation.

The most disturbing thing about it is the growing fetish, carried to extremes here, for realism in violence. Grey-edged bullet-holes in the back of a neck, fingernails dripping with blood to prove recent torture, and torturess Sylva Koscina, who puts Suzanna Leigh and the mini-bikini'd Elke Sommer well and truly to rout, make the X certificate richly deserved.

david quinlan

OPENING

DEADLIER THAN THE MALE (X). Bulldog Drummond up to date, complete with gadgetry, girls and an underlying nastiness in the more violent scenes. Richard Johnson does well as Drummond. (Elke Sommer, Sylva Koscina, Nigel Green, Suzanna Leigh. Dir: Ralph Thomas. Col. 98 min.) **Leicester Square Theatre.** WHI 5252. Opens Th 29 Dec

GAMBIT (U). A thoroughly enjoyable comedy-thriller, directed by Ronald Neame, involving a scheme to steal the art treasures of a mid-Eastern potentate, smoothly played by Herbert Lom. Shirley MacLaine and Michael Caine make a fine comedy team, and there is some fascinating gadgetry. (Dir: Ronald Neame. Col. 108 min.) **Odeon,** Leicester Square. WHI 6161. Opens W 28 Dec

HAWAII (A). The latest epic from United Artists, directed by George Roy Hill. Based on the novel by James A Michener, the story concerns the bigoted and uncompromising efforts of a New England parson (Max Von Sydow) to change the way of life of the natives. Julie Andrews plays the long-suffering wife. Some fine second-unit work by Richard Talmadge. (Richard Harris, Jocelyn La Garde. Col. 161 min.) **Astoria,** Charing Cross Road. GER 5385. Opens M 2 Jan

WEST END

BATMAN (U). Four fiendish adversaries combine to combat the deadly duo; a must for Batman fans. (Adam West, Burt Ward. Col. 105 min.) With: *The Man Called Flintstone* (U). **Carlton,** Haymarket. WHI 3711. Pgm: 1.30, 3.20, 7.0. Sun: 3.20, 6.55. Ends 3 Jan

THE BIBLE . . . IN THE BEGINNING (U). Covers from the Creation to the story of Abraham and Isaac. John Huston's direction is uneven but the Noah sequence, in which he himself plays Noah, is quite delightful and amusing. (Michael Parks, Richard Harris, George C Scott. Col. Cinerama. 175 min.) **Coliseum Cinerama,** St Martin's Lane. TEM 3161. 2.30, 8.0. Sun: 3.30, 7.30

THE BLUE MAX (A). George Peppard plays an unscrupulous German flier, prepared to do anything to gain the Blue Max, the most coveted medal in the Kaiser's air force. Air scenes splendid but dialogue grounded. (James Mason, Ursula Andress. Col. 155 min.) **Metropole,** Victoria. VIC 4673. 2.30, 8.0. Sun: 4.0, 8.0. Ends 4 Jan

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO (A). The long-awaited production of Boris Pasternak's novel. Omar Sharif smoulders as Yuri Zhivago and Julie Christie is unforgettable as Lara. Good entertainment. (Geraldine Chaplin, Rod Steiger. Col. 193 min.) **Empire,** Leicester Square. GER 1234. 7.30. Sun: 3.0, 7.30

THE FAMILY WAY (X). Hayley Mills and Hywel Bennett are north-country newly-weds, forced to honeymoon at his parents' home. Based on the ribald play by Bill Naughton. (John Mills, Marjorie Rhodes. Col. 114 min.) **Warner,** Leicester Square. GER 3424. 1.25, 3.45, 6.15, 8.40. Sun: 3.20, 5.50, 8.25

LES FETES GALANTES (U). An amiable parody of war. Jean-Pierre Cassel plays an adventurer caught up in a war between two Dukedoms. Intermittently funny and shot in attractive pale colour. (Marie Dubois. Col. 90 min.) With: *Sous les Toits de Paris* (U). **Oxford Street Cinephone.** MAY 4721. 12.9, 3.15, 6.21, 9.33. Sun: 6.8, 9.23

FOLLOW ME BOYS (U). Cheerfully sentimental story of a travelling saxophone player who settles down in a small town, becomes a Scoutmaster and redeems the local bad boys. Fred MacMurray is the do-gooding hero. (Vera Miles, Lillian Gish. Col. 132 min.) With: *The Wind in the Willows* (U). **Columbia,** Shaftesbury Avenue. REG 5414

I DEAL IN DANGER (A). A routine, unimaginative thriller. Robert Goulet has some hilarious dialogue as an American Nazi. (Christine Carère. Col. 89 min.) With: *Back Door to Hell* (A). **Rialto,** Coventry Street. GER 3488. 12.15, 3.10, 6.10, 9.10. Sun: 3.5, 6.5, 9.10

IS PARIS BURNING? (A). René Clément's 2¾-hour reconstruction of the events leading up to the liberation of Paris by the Allies at the end of the Second World War. Confused and disjointed, it fails to live up to expectations. (Orson Welles, Gert Fröbe, Leslie Caron. 165 min.) **Odeon,** Haymarket. WHI 2738. 2.30, 7.30. Sun: 4.30, 8.0

KHARTOUM (U). Colossal battle scenes and an all-star cast have been added to strict historical accuracy. Charlton Heston plays General Gordon, and Laurence Olivier the Mahdi. (Ralph Richardson. Col. Cinerama. 130 min.) **Casino,** Old Compton Street. GER 6877. 2.30, 7.45. Sat: 2.0, 5.20, 8.40. Sun: 3.28, 5.57, 8.27

MONSIEUR HULOT'S HOLIDAY (U). Jacques Tati's now classic comedy about the misadventures of a gauche French bachelor on holiday. (90 min.) With: *A Home of Your Own* (U). **Prince Charles Theatre,** Leicester Place. GER 8181

MY FAIR LADY (U). Rex Harrison carries the film along in commanding style, with Audrey Hepburn as a spirited though rather inadequate Liza. Great vitality but played just a little too safe. (Stanley Holloway. Col. 185 min.) **Studio One,** Oxford Street. GER 3300. 1.0, 4.30, 8.0. Sun: 3.40, 7.0

MY SISTER, MY LOVE (X). A nobleman (Per Oscarsson), after several years, is reunited with his sister (Bibi Andersson), and as the film progresses, they become drawn to each other. Vilgot Sjöman's direction shows a fine sense of the mysticism, refinement and cruelty of the 16th century. (Jarl Külle. 96 min.) With: *Two in Love* (U). **Curzon,** Curzon Street. GRO 3737. Pgm: 1.20, 3.40, 6.0, 8.30. Sun: 3.15, 5.40, 8.10. (Check with cinema)

NIGHT GAMES (X). A man looks back on his childhood experiences and his relationship with his mother, a rich and dissolute woman, played by Ingrid Thülin. The film conveys, magnificently, a sense of decadence and corruption. (Monica Zetterlund. 90 min.) **Royalty Kingsway.** HOL 8004. 2.40, 6.0, 9.20. Sun: 6.0, 9.20

ONE POTATO, TWO POTATO (A). Well-meaning study of racial intermarriage, with Barbara Barrie, Bernie Hamilton and Richard Mulligan. A film with thoroughly honest intentions, which unfortunately degenerates into sentimentality. (90 min.) **Cameo-Poly,** Upper Regent Street. LAN 1744. 12.40, 3.25, 6.20, 9.10. Sun: 4.40, 7.45

THE RED DESERT (X). Antonioni's lengthy journey into the worlds of machinery and the human mind. Exciting use of colour. (Richard Harris, Monica Vitti. 116 min.) **Academy Two,** Oxford Street. GER 5129. 1.35, 3.55, 6.15, 8.45. Sun: 3.55, 6.15, 8.45

RETURN OF THE GUNFIGHTER (U). Robert Taylor plays an ex-gunfighter who rides the vengeance trail when his old partner and the partner's wife are murdered, and their daughter disappears. Set in Mexico. (Co-star Everett, Anna Martin. Col. 96 min.) **Ritz,** Leicester Square. GER 1[illegible]

ROMEO AND JULIET (U). A straightforward record of Kenneth MacMillan's ballet, with music by Prokofiev, featuring Fonteyn and Nureyev. Magnificent costumes and settings. (Col. 126 min.) **Astoria,** Charing Cross Road. GER 5385. 3.0, 8.15. Sun: 4.30, 7.45. Ends 1 Jan. Transfers to Metropole, Victoria, 5 Jan

THE ROUND-UP (X). An austere and visually arresting Hungarian film, set after a popular uprising against the Hapsburgs in the 19th century, in a deserted prison camp in the middle of a Hungarian plain. (94 min.) **Academy One,** Oxford Street. GER 2981. 2.35, 4.45, 6.55, 9.20. Sun: 4.45, 6.55, 9.20

THE SOUND OF MUSIC (U). Hosts of children and singing nuns. Christopher Plummer is the somewhat authoritarian father of the brood and Julie Andrews another wholesome governess. (Col. Todd-AO. 170 min.) **Dominion,** Tottenham Court Road. MUS 1276. 2.30, 8.0. Sun: 4.30, 8.0

THE SWINGER (X). Bright and bawdy satire with Ann-Margret unlikely as an unsuccessful actress who resorts to writing a sensational autobiography in a bid to become accepted. Some gimmicky photography. (Tony Franciosa, Robert Coote. Col. 80 min.) **Plaza,** Piccadilly Circus. WHI 8944

THUNDERBIRDS ARE GO! (U). A spectacular sci-fi spoof based on the TV series. The dialogue is OK for children, often hysterically funny for adults, and the Martian monsters are really imaginative creatures. Col. 94 min.) With: *Namu, the Killer Whale* (U). **London Pavilion,** Piccadilly Circus. GER 2982. Pgm: 11.20, 12.50, 4.5, 7.25. Sun: 4.5, 7.25

YOU MAY NOT HAVE WON A TRIP TO HAWAII...

BUT YOU CAN BOOK NOW FOR

ASTORIA CHARING CROSS ROAD
FROM JANUARY 3rd
JULIE ANDREWS
MAX VON SYDOW
RICHARD HARRIS
"HAWAII" (A)

GENERAL RELEASE

*Sunday programmes differ
† Check with cinema

DISTRICT DIRECTORY

Baker Street Classic. 24, 29, 30.
Belmont Essoldo. 35.
Brixton Classic. 32, 45.
***Brixton Granada.** 8.
Camberwell Grand. 14, 35.
†**Charing X Road Cameo-Royal.** 26.
Charing X Road Jacey-Tatler. 28.
Chelsea Classic. 18, 19, 20.
Chelsea Essoldo. 4, 40.
Croydon Classic. 12, 33.
Crystal Palace Granada. 35.
Dalston Classic. 7, 45.
Drayton Gardens Paris-Pullman. 27.
Ealing Walpole. 36.
East Ham Granada. 8.
Edgware Road ABC. 49.
Edgware Road Gala-Royal. 21.
Eltham Hill Gaumont. 2.
Finchley Rex. 8.
Finsbury Park Astoria. 1.
Fulham Road ABC. 49.
Golders Green Ionic. 35, 40.
Great Windmill Street Windmill. 47.
Hackney Essoldo. 1, 35.
Hammersmith Broadway. 46.
Hampstead Everyman, 13.
***Harringay Curzon.** 9.
Harrow Road Prince of Wales. 43.
Haverstock Hill Odeon. 23.
Hendon Gala. 14.
Hendon Gaumont 8.
***Highams Park Regal.** 4, 35.
Kilburn Classic. 12, 48.
Kilburn Grange. 1.
Kingston Odeon. 1.
Marble Arch Jacey. 38.
Notting Hill Classic. 15, 25.
Old Kent Road Astoria 21.
Piccadilly Circus Classic. 11.
Piccadilly Jacey. 41.
Praed Street Classic. 31, 34, 45.
Putney Globe 21.
Queensbury Essoldo. 1, 50.
Raynes Park Rialto. 9.
Richmond Gaumont. 1.
Southfields Plaza. 1, 10.
Stockwell Classic. 3, 17.
Stoke Newington Coliseum. 42.
Tooting Astoria. 1, 10.
Tooting Classic. 22, 39.
Tottenham Court Rd Berkeley. 1.
Tottenham Court Rd Continentale 5
Tottenham Palace 10.
***Victoria Biograph.** 6, 37.
Victoria Cameo. 35.
Wandsworth Road Granada. 35.
Waterloo Station Classic. 16, 34.
Watford Essoldo 5.
Westbourne Grove International Film Theatre. 44.

ADVENTURE

1 **Born Free** (U). Virginia McKenna, Bill Travers. Tottenham Court Road Berkeley. Until Sat: Hackney Essoldo, Tooting Astoria, Queensbury Essoldo. Fri, seven days: Finsbury Park Astoria, Kilburn Grange, Kingston Odeon, Richmond Gaumont. Mon, five days (not Tues): Southfields Plaza

2 **Cleopatra** (A). Elizabeth Taylor. Fri, seven days: Eltham Hill Gaumont

3 **The Crimson Pirate** (U). Burt Lancaster. Until Sat: Stockwell Classic

4 **Tarzan and The Valley of Gold** (U). Mike Henry. Sun, seven days: Chelsea Essoldo. Mon, six days: Highams Park Regal

5 **The 10 Commandments** (U). Charlston Heston. Tottenham Court Road Continentale, Watford Essoldo

6 **The 300 Spartans** (U). Richard Egan. Until Sat: Victoria Biograph

7 **Tiger of the Seven Seas** (U). Anthony Steel. Until Sat: Dalston Classic.

CARTOONS

8 **Lady and The Tramp** (U). Fri, seven days: Finchley Rex, Hendon Gaumont. Fri, nine days: East Ham Granada. Mon, five days: Brixton Granada

9 **Peter Pan** (U). Until Sat: Raynes Park Rialto. Mon, three days: Harringay Curzon

10 **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs** (U). Until Sat: Southfields Plaza. Fri, seven days: Tottenham Palace. Sun, six days (not Tues): Tooting Astoria

COMEDIES

11 **Alfie** (X). Michael Caine. Piccadilly Circus Classic. Late show Sat 11.15 pm

12 **Battle of the Sexes** (U). Peter Sellers. Until Sat: Croydon Classic. Sun, seven days: Kilburn Classic

13 **The General** (U). Buster Keaton. Hampstead Everyman

14 **The Great St Trinians Train Robbery** (U). Dora Bryan. Until Sat: Hendon Gala. Mon, three days: Camberwell Grand

15 **The Knack** (X). Rita Tushingham. Sun, seven days: Notting Hill Classic. Late show Sat 11.15 pm

16 **The Millionairess** (U). Peter Sellers. Sophia Loren. Sun, seven days: Waterloo Station Classic

17 **The Nutty Professor** (U). Jerry Lewis. Sun, seven days: Stockwell Classic

18 **The Pink Panther** (A). Peter Sellers. Until Sat: Chelsea Classic. Late show Sat 11.15 pm

19 **The 7-Year Itch** (A). Marilyn Monroe. Sun, seven days: Chelsea Classic. Late show Sat 11.15 pm

20 **Taxi!** (U). Louis de Funès. Fri, 30 Dec, 11.15 pm only: Chelsea Classic

21 **Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines** (U). Sarah Miles, Stuart Whitman. Edgware Road Gala-Royal. Fri, seven days: Old Kent Road Astoria, Putney Globe

22 **What's New Pussycat?** (X). Peter O'Toole, Peter Sellers. Sun, seven days: Tooting Classic. With: Monsieur Hulot's Holiday (U)

DRAMA

23 **Becket** (U). Richard Burton, Peter O'Toole. Fri, seven days: Haverstock Hill Odeon

24 **Gangsters and Philanthropists** (U). Miroslav Majchrowski. Fri, 30 Dec, 11.15 pm only: Baker Street Classic

25 **The Nun's Story** (U). Audrey Hepburn. Until Sat: Notting Hill Classic. Late show Sat 11.15 pm

26 **Onibaba** (X, London). Jitsuko Yoshimura. Charing Cross Road Cameo-Royal. With: A Penny for Your Thoughts (X)

27 **Saragossa Manuscript** (X). Zbigniew Cybulski. Drayton Gardens Paris-Pullman. With: Nobody Waved Goodbye (A)

28 **Small World of Sammy Lee** (X). Anthony Newley. Charing Cross Road Jacey-Tatler. With: Frustration (X)

29 **Waiting Women** (X). Eva Dahlbeck. Fri, 30 Dec, 11.15 pm only: Baker Street Classic

30 **War and Peace** (U). Audrey Hepburn, Henry Fonda. Baker Street Classic. Late show Sat 11.15 pm

MUSICALS

31 **Blue Hawaii** (U). Elvis Presley. Until Sat: Praed Street Classic. With: A Hard Day's Night (U)

32 **Fun in Acapulco** (U). Elvis Presley. Sun, four days: Brixton Classic

33 **G I Blues** (U). Elvis Presley. Sun, seven days: Croydon Classic. With: North-West Frontier (U)

34 **A Hard Day's Night** (U). The Beatles. Until Sat: Praed Street Classic, Waterloo Station Classic

35 **Mary Poppins** (U). Julie Andrews Victoria Cameo. Until Sat: Belmont Essoldo, Camberwell Grand, Golders Green Ionic, Highams Park Regal. Fri, seven days: Crystal Palace Granada. Fri, five days (not Mon & Wed): Wandsworth Road Granada. Sun, six days (not Wed): Hackney Essoldo

36 **Swinging Summer** (U). Raquel Welch. Fri, seven days: Ealing Walpole

37 **Tickle Me** (U). Elvis Presley. Mon, three days: Victoria Biograph. With: Gay Purree (U)

38 **The Wizard of Oz** (U). Judy Garland. Marble Arch Jacey. With: Tom Thumb (U)

39 **Wonderful Life** (U). Cliff Richard. Until Sat: Tooting Classic. With: Cinderfella (U)

THRILLERS

40 **Dr No** (A). Sean Connery. Until Sat: Chelsea Essoldo. Sun, seven days: Golders Green Ionic. With: From Russia With Love (A)

41 **The Exterminators** (A). Richard Wyler. Piccadilly Jacey. With: Revenge of the Blood Beast (X)

42 **Orchid for the Tiger** (A). Roger Hanin. Sun, seven days: Stoke Newington Coliseum

43 **Shadow of Evil** (U). Kerwin Mathews. Fri, seven days: Harrow Road Prince of Wales. With: The Invincible Gladiator (U)

44 **The Sleeping Car Murders** (X). Simone Signoret, Yves Montand. Until Sat: Westbourne Grove International Film Theatre

WESTERNS

45 **Broken Arrow** (U). Jeff Chandler. Until Sat: Brixton Classic. Sun, four days: Dalston Classic. Sun, seven days: Praed Street Classic

46 **Broken Lance** (U). Spencer Tracy, Richard Widmark. Fri, seven days: Hammersmith Broadway. With: The Enemy Below (U)

47 **Cat Ballou** (A). Jane Fonda, Lee Marvin. Great Windmill Street Windmill. With: Fail Safe (A)

48 **Sergeants Three** (U). Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin. Until Sat: Kilburn Classic

PRE-RELEASE

49 **My Fair Lady** (U). Audrey Hepburn, Rex Harrison. Fri, 14 days: Edgware Road ABC, Fulham Road ABC

STOP PRESS

50 **How to Steal a Million** (U). Peter O'Toole, Audrey Hepburn. Sun, six days (not Mon): Queensbury Essoldo

FILMS IN FLIGHT

AIR FRANCE. Until 3 Jan. **To New York:** The Singing Nun (Debbie Reynolds, Greer Garson). **To Los Angeles and Montreal:** Assault on a Queen (Frank Sinatra, Virna Lisi). **To Washington:** Le Gendarme de Saint-Tropez (Louis de Funès)

PAN-AM. Until 31 Dec. **Eastbound:** Texas Across the River (Dean Martin, Allin Delon, Rosemary Forsyth). **Westbound:** The Wrong Box (Michael Caine, Peter Sellers)

TWA. Until 3 Jan. **All flights:** Kaleidoscope (Warren Beatty, Susannah York)

RANK RELEASE NORTH

From Fri: PRESS FOR TIME (U). The latest Norman Wisdom comedy, directed by Robert Asher. This time Norman – *above* – plays a newspaper reporter and a host of other characters from his family tree, with his usual slapstick humour. Not suited to the wide screen, but quite enjoyable. (Col. 98 min.) With **Munster, Go Home!** (U) or **And Now Miguel** (U). Ends Th 5 Jan

RANK RELEASE SOUTH

From Fri: THUNDERBIRDS ARE GO! (U). An animated puppet film; a spectacular sci-fi spoof based on the TV series. The dialogue is OK for children, often hysterically funny for adults; and the Martian monsters are really imaginative creations. So is Parker, the Cockney chauffeur – *above*. – (Dir: David Lane. Col. 94 min.) With: **Namu, The Killer Whale** (U). Ends Th 5 Jan

ABC RELEASE NORTH

From Fri: ONE MILLION YEARS, BC (A). Hammer celebrate their 100th film with a prehistoric epic in which special effects score heavily, with lively performances from brontosauruses and pterodactyls. Raquel Welch – *above* – and John Richardson represent the human race. Directed by Don Chaffey. (Martine Beswick Col. 100 min.) With: **The Bugs Bunny Show No 5** (U). Ends Th 5 Jan

ABC RELEASE SOUTH

From Fri: THE VENETIAN AFFAIR (A). Taut, if confused, thriller about a newspaper photographer drawn into international espionage. The action goes haywire in the last half-hour. (Robert Vaughn, Elke Sommer – *above* – Karl Boehm, Boris Karloff. Dir: Jerry Thorpe. Col. 92 min.) With: **The Dangerous Days Of Kiowa Jones** (A) Ends Th 5 Jan

MUSIC

AUSTRALIAN BARITONE Tom McDonnell was ecstatic: "I must be the luckiest man alive!" He was speaking about the contract he has just signed with the Sadler's Wells Opera Company. And pleased he may well be . . . a year ago he was singing in the chorus of the Sutherland-Williamson Opera Company in Melbourne; then he came to London, was auditioned by the Wells, and three weeks ago, while waiting for the outcome, entered for the Count Cinzano Scholarship at Covent Garden. That clinched it; the Wells were so impressed that they took him on immediately – as a principal singer. McDonnell, who is 26, studied law and art in Melbourne for six years before embarking on a singing career. "My contract will now mean that I can continue my musical studies," he told me, "and this is important to me. But I don't intend to rush into too many big roles to begin with. I plan to start at the bottom and work my way up." This, though, must be Aussie modesty, because he is already busy rehearsing the Baron for the Wells revival of *La Traviata* in February, as well as understudying Count Tomsky in *The Queen of Spades* on tour. That's hardly starting at the bottom.

The BBC Symphony Orchestra will be looking for a new leader early in 1967 – when its present leader, Hugh Maguire (left), *leaves to devote more of his time to solo work and chamber music. Maguire has been leader of some of our top orchestras for the last 15 years, and for some time he has been appearing with his own Cremona String Quartet. Now he is engaged on another project – the formation of a piano trio, with 'cellist Jacqueline Du Pré and pianist Fou Ts'ong.*

Together with such In names as op, pop, camp, *art nouveau*, and escalation, that of psychedelic experience, or freak-out, has been so flogged to death that it has become insignificant and meaningless (assuming it was *ever* significant or meaningful). Britain's Kim Fowley started it all with the first freak-out disc, *Lights;* now such groups as The Yardbirds and John's Children are following in Fowley's psychedelic footsteps. How long will it last? Already one American group, The Mothers of Invention, are pushing their "new, free music" – which they describe as music "freed from the past." Could quite well go down big in the pop world.

Sadler's Wells have found themselves with an unexpected hit on their hands with Malcolm Williamson's new opera, The Violins of Saint-Jacques. *A good first-night Press, an even better Press from the provincials, plus a broadcast,*

have resulted in a sudden upsurge in bookings; you'll be well advised to book now for the performance on 29 December, which is the last of the current series. And if you can't get into that? "It will definitely be coming back into the repertory at a later date," Sadler's Wells assert. The picture above shows Patricia Kern as Joséphine and David Bowman as Marcel, in what has become one of the opera's most popular arias, Let me one day return.

CONCERTS

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, Kensington Gore, SW7 (KEN 8212). W 4 Jan: Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Choral Society. Soloists: Sheila Armstrong, Barbara Robotham, Gerald English, John Shirley-Quirk, John Birch, organ. 7.30

RECITALS

LEIGHTON HOUSE, 12 Holland Park Road, W14. W 4 Jan: Ronald White, tenor, Judith Lambden, piano. 7.45

ST BOTOLPH, Bishopsgate, EC2. Th 29 Dec: Martin Ellis, organ. 1.10. T 3 Jan: John Oxlade, organ. 1.0

ST CLEMENT, Eastcheap. T 3 Jan: Laurence James, organ. 1.0

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. Th 29 Dec: Carols by the Ripley Choir. 6.0

ALL HALLOWS BERKYNGECHIRCHE-BY-THE-TOWER. Th 29 Dec: Gordon Phillips, organ. 12.15 and 1.15

ST BRIDE, Fleet Street, EC4. Sun 1 Jan: Carol Service. 6.30

ST MICHAEL, Cornhill. M 2 Jan: Richard Popplewell, organ. 1.0

BISHOPSGATE INSTITUTE, EC2. T 3 Jan: Marisa Robels, harp. 1.5

ST MARY ALDERMARY, Queen Victoria Street, EC4. T 3 Jan: New Year and Epiphany Carols, Aldermary Singers. 1.15

HOLY SEPULCHRE, Holborn Viaduct, EC4. W 4 Jan: Mary Mee, soprano, John Mee, organ. 1.15

BALLET

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, Covent Garden, WC2 (COV 1066). Th 29 Dec: CINDERELLA, Prokofiev/Ashton. Conductor: Lanchbery. Principals: Beriosova, Rosson, Ashton, Helpmann. 7.30. Sat 31 Dec: CINDERELLA, Prokofiev/Ashton. Conductor: Young. Principals: Sibley, Gable, Shaw, Holden. 2.15

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, South Bank, SE1 (WAT 3191). THE NUTCRACKER, Tchaikovsky/Lichine. Conductors: Bowman, Reid. London's Festival Ballet with Children's Corps de Ballet. Principals: John Gilpin, Jean-Pierre Alban, Ben Stevenson, Alain Dubreuil, Gary Sherwood, Karel Shimoff, Galina Samtsova, Margot Miklosy, Carmen Mathé, Dianne Richards, Vassilie Trunoff, Helen Starr. 3.0 and 7.30

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, Covent Garden, WC2 (COV 1066). F 30 Dec, M 2 and W 4 Jan: RIGOLETTO, Verdi (in Italian). Conductor: Downes. Principals: Grist, Veasey, Aragall, MacNeil, Rouleau, Robinson. 7.30
Sat 31 Dec, T 3 Jan: BENVENUTO CELLINI, Berlioz (in French). Conductor: Pritchard. Principals: Vaughan, Minton, Gedda, Dobson, Massard, Bisson, D Ward, Godfrey. 7.30

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (TER 1672). Th 29 Dec: THE VIOLINS OF SAINT-JACQUES, Williamson. Conductor: Tausky. Principals: Cantelo, Kells, Kern, Robson, Fryatt, Hillman, Bowman, Stroud, Brannigan. 7.30
F 30, Sat 31 Dec, W 4 Jan: BLUEBEARD, Offenbach. Conductor: Barker. Soloists: Grimaldi, Cooper, Fryatt, Hawthorne, Hillman, Stroud. 7.30
Sat 31 Dec, M 2 Jan: HANSEL AND GRETEL, Humperdinck. Conductor: Balkwill. Principals: Neville, Kern, Hunter, Howard, Folley. Sat: 2.30. M: 7.30
T 3 Jan: THE THIEVING MAGPIE, Rossini. Conductor: Balkwill. Principals: Wilson, Kern, Robson, Browne, Delaney, Fryatt, Dowling, Singleton, Blackburn. 7.30

JAZZ/POPULAR

RONNIE SCOTT'S, 47 Frith Street, Until 7 Jan: Ben Webster and Blossom Dearie

SAVILLE THEATRE. All week: Georgie Fame, Julie Felix, Cat Stevens, Sounds Incorporated, The Fourmost. 6.10 and 8.45

TILES, 79 Oxford Street. Th 29 Dec: The Riot Squad. F 30 Dec: Alan Price Set. Sun 1 Jan: The Uglies

MARQUEE, 90 Wardour Street. F 30 Dec: Long John Baldry, Jimmy James and the Vagabonds

LOCARNO, Streatham Hill. Th 29 Dec: The Move

100 CLUB, 100 Oxford Street. Sat 31 Dec: Kenny Ball. Sun 1 Jan: Monty Sunshine

FLAMINGO, 33-37 Wardour Street. F 30 Dec: The Broodly Hoo. Sat 31 Dec: Winston G and the Boss-Men. Sun 1 Jan: David Essex, Mood Indigo, St Louis Checks, Ebony Keys

SCOTCH OF ST JAMES'S, Duke Street. Sat 31 Dec: Eric Burdon and the New Animals

RICK DANE ON DISCS

HAPPENING LIVE

London has finally come alive on a Sunday night – it's all "Yeah Yeah" down Shaftesbury Avenue at Brian Epstein's Saville Theatre. The Sunday Saville could become a ritual, as it's the only scene that entertains in a deserted West End. Epstein has already presented some exciting shows here, featuring The Four Tops, Little Richard and Geno Washington. I thoroughly enjoyed the showmanship and rocking style of Geno who had the Rammers hand-clapping and foot-stamping in the aisles. From Monday 26 December, Georgie Fame and Julie Felix take over the theatre for a short run of Fame in '67, *which should be well worth a visit.*

●

Cher – Mama (When My Dollies Have Babies) – (Liberty). Cher gives another beautifully wistful and dramatic performance on *Mama* and I hope Sonny will do more producing in '67 of Cher singing solo. Her individual performances are outstanding and we could see the development of a pop Streisand. A song with sads of charm, unnecessary of key kiddie chorus and ridiculous title – it seems to be the trend these days.

BALLET

As I made my way out of the magnificent Royal Theatre in Copenhagen nearly two years ago, where the Royal Danish Ballet had just given a more than squeamish account of the erotic Cultergy-Strindberg *Miss Julie*, the Disney Studio blinded my eyes by a battery of spotlights focused on the foyer entrance. Cameras rolled, and I had come face-to-face with Disney's production team at work on *Ballerina* (U). Now the 95-minute-long picture is on general release in North London – and worth seeing, even if the screenplay runs a bit thin.

At the heart of nearly all Walt Disney's films is the sentimental, the romantic: two qualities, at least, ideally suited to the subject-matter of *Ballerina*. Yet something, somewhere, went wrong. The camera-work and colour is up to the standard we expect of Disney; it is simply the slight story and poor acting that is at fault. Perhaps this is to be expected when the film's principal speaking characters are dancers – namely, Kirsten Simone and Mette Honningen. It makes one wonder, though, how Nadia Nerina and Ann Jenner, both comparable artists, would respond to speaking film roles.

Because *Ballerina* is aimed at a common denominator audience, it has a certain irritating ring of un-

Paul Butterfield Blues Band – Come On In (London). Paul Butterfield has a great reputation around Chicago, but has encouraged little reaction here. Competent, unexciting and lacking the necessary colour to break big, can't see *Come On In* having chart success despite some excellent guitar sounds from Mike Bloomfield.

●

Georgie Fame – Sitting In The Park (Columbia). Single release from Georgie's last LP. As more singles can be expected from his old material you'll probably save by buying the album. *Sitting In The Park* is a slow ballad, well handled by Georgie (*below*), not at all like the

interpretation by Billy Stewart. '67 should be an interesting year for Georgie with his solo career really happening for him.

DISCOTHEQUE TEN

1 *You Keep Me Hangin' On* – Supremes
2 *Sunshine Superman* – Donovan
3 *What Becomes Of The Broken Hearted?* – Jimmy Ruffin
4 *Mustang Sally* – Wilson Pickett
5 *I'm Ready For Love* – Martha and The Vandellas
6 *(Come 'Round Here) I'm The One You Need* – Miracles
7 *Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa (Sad Song)* – Otis Redding
8 *I Need Love* – Little Richard
9 *I Feel Free* – The Cream
10 *Don't Be A Dropout* – James Brown

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reality about it. The donkey-work of training is stressed just too much: "You're turning yourself into a machine," Mette's mother keeps telling her.

The Dance of the Four Cygnets received hysterical laughter from the audience, particularly from children. Surely no greater testimonial that this embarrassment should be cut from *Swan Lake*. A teacher tells her girls: "Your *bourrées* aren't nearly small enough" – this time a mild titter.

Woven into the story are extracts from *La Sylphide* (with the Danes' answer to Anthony Dowell, Flemming Ryberg, real-life brother of Simone), *Swan Lake* (with its *Snow White*-type sets), and *Coppélia*, with a more colourful Galician village than I've ever seen in the theatre. For those fascinated by the glamour of back-stage sweat and heartaches, there's plenty of this too – even a glimpse of the delicious young blonde dancer, Lisa la Cour (just a plump graduate when I first saw her three years ago), taking a test class.

No one would suggest that *Ballerina* is one of Walt Disney's inspired masterpieces; but it has certainly made me want to go and see it again – a reaction which Paul Czinner's *Romeo and Juliet* hasn't a chance in hell of doing.

ian woodward

GALLERIES

I feel it about time to examine the implications behind what was recently called "that good old sure-fire argument" – the proposition that, alone in a burning house with time to rescue either a kitten or the original painting of Mona Lisa, which would you choose to save?

Firstly, is it a *good* proposition? I have always been led by logicians to believe it good only to compare like with like, and I don't call a cat and a painting like enough. Presumably the debaters meant the Mona Lisa to represent the most famous and/or valuable painting in the world. Surely that's a wee bit 19th century Top-of-the-Pops by now? A better exercise in soul searching would be to choose (for saving from fire, if you must dramatise it) between a Bellini and a Mantegna, or, better still, between a Picasso and a Braque, both of 1910.

What I actually object to in the cat case is that the debaters were *taking no risk* in preferring little pussy to that picture. Let them consider rescuing the last tomkitten in the world or the last young bull.

But I am interested in the kind of symbol that was instinctively chosen as an Aunt Sally for their debate and also in other symbols that people attack. Pianos, for example, much in the news recently. Those auto-destructive folk are always chopping them up. Pianos are such traditional targets, and have been at the lack-of-mercy of clowns since they were invented.

"Clown," from an original lithograph by Picasso, at the Grosvenor.

Let me turn the problem round by putting again a question I have never had satisfactorily answered by a combatant. Would the people at a Happening who chop up a provided piano with a provided axe be the same ones to chop away if provided with a brand new Ferrari and invited to go ahead? New piano versus new car, axe in hand? War might break out.

keith sutton

OPENING

FRANK AUERBACK, Marlborough Fine Arts, 39 Old Bond Street, W1. MAY 5161. Paintings. 6 Jan-3 Feb. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

DRIAN, 5/7 Porchester Place, W2. PAD 9473. Drian Artists. 8-27 Jan. Daily 10-6

RON FULLER AND ROSAMUND STEED, Everyman Foyer, Everyman Cinema, NW3. HAM 4071. Lithographs. 2-29 Jan. M-Sat 2-10, Sun 4.30-10.30

GILLRAY (1756-1815), Arts Council, 4 St James Square, SW1. WHI 9737. Political and Social Caricatures. 6 Jan-4 Feb. M-Sat 10-6, T and Th 10-8

FREDERICK HORNER AND RICHARD BAWDEN, Curwen, 1 Coleville Place, W1. MUS 1459. Lithographs and Etchings. 5-31 Jan. M-F 10-5, Th 10-7, Sat 10-1

KASMIN, 118 New Bond Street, W1. MAY 2821. Kasmin Gallery Group. 1-31 Jan. M-F 10-5.30, Sat 10-1

PICASSO, Grosvenor, 30 Davies Street, W1. MAY 0891. Picasso Posters 1939-1966. 3-21 Jan. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

TOOTHS, 31 Bruton Street, W1. GRO 6741. 19th and 20th century accrochage. 4 Jan-4 Feb. M-F 9.30-6, Sat 9.30-1

TRAFFORD, 119 Mount Street, W1. GRO 2021. Mount Street Group '67. 3-27 Jan. M-F 10-5.30, Sat 10-1

CURRENT

AIA, 15 Lisle Street, WC2. GER 4346. Objects. Until 8 Jan. M-F 11-6, Sat 11-4

BRITISH MUSEUM, Great Russell Street, WC1. MUS 1556. History and Romance in Mughal India. Exhibition of Music Printings. Daily 10-5, Sun 2.30-6

LUCIO FONTANA, McRoberts and Tunnard, 34 Curzon Street, W1. GRO 3611. Paintings. Until mid-Jan. M-F 10-5.30, Sat 10-1

GIMPEL FILS, 50 South Molton Street, W1. MAY 3720. Primitive works. Until 21 Jan. M-F 10-5.45, Sat 10-1

HAMILTON, 8 St George Street, W1. HYD 3196. Hamiliton Artists '65-'67. Until 14 Jan. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

ICA, 17-18 Dover Street, W1. GRO 6186. Selections from the Ascher Award. Until 7 Jan. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

KASMIN, 118 New Bond Street, W1. MAY 2821. Indian Miniatures. Until 31 Dec. M-F 10-5.30, Sat 10-1

L S LOWRY, Tate, Millbank, SW1. TAT 4444. Retrospective. Until 15 Jan. M-Sat 10-5, Sun 2-6, T and Th 10-8

L S LOWRY, Crane Kalman, 178 Brompton Road, SW3. KNI 7566. Homage to L S Lowry. Until Jan. M-F 10-7, Sat 10-4

PICASSO, Brook Street Gallery, 24 Brook Street, W1. HYD 1550. Sixty years of graphic work. Until 27 Jan. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

REDFERN, 20 Cork Street, W1. REG 1732. Works from the Gallery Maeght. Until 10 Jan. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

ROWAN, 25a Lowndes Street, SW1. BEL 3490. Gallery Group. Until 29 Dec. M-F 10-6, Sat 10-1

GRABOWSKI, 84 Sloane Avenue, SW3. KEN 1868. Print-makers' Council. Until 13 Jan. Daily 10-6

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Well House has a heart of oak

An impressive house in the Berkshire commuting countryside is now on the market. The Well House, Braywick, near Bray (where that Vicar once lived!) is for sale freehold at £15,750. It was built in the mid-thirties on the site of what were the kitchen gardens of Braywick House. Part of the brickwork of the old ice well is incorporated into the front wall. The gardens extend to three-quarters of an acre, with rose trees galore, as well as a selection of apple, cherry and plum trees.

The house has two storeys. There are four bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom and a sun lounge. On the ground floor, the décor is baronial. An oak-panelled reception hall, fitted with a cloakroom, leads to the oak-beamed sitting room with an attractive inglenook fireplace, heavy oak timbers, oak panels and a York stone surround.

Above: The Well House, Braywick, has rose trees galore in its extensive gardens. Below: A Regency house, 24 Caroline Terrace, SW1, is for sale leasehold at £14,500.

Sun lounge

Double casement doors lead to the heated sun lounge, ideal for sun worshippers in winter as it has half-glass walls and a glass roof. The oak-beam *motif* continues in the dining-room which has a beamed ceiling and a service hatch that communicates with the fully equipped kitchen.

A staircase with an oak and pine balustrade leads to the galleried landing, off which are the four bedrooms and the bathroom, which is fitted with an extra-long bath. Outside features include fuel stores, a potting shed, a cold greenhouse and cold frames.

Complete central heating and garaging for two cars are other features of The Well House. Agents are the Maidenhead offices of Tufnell and Partners.

● Bignalls, a large house near Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, is for sale freehold. It was built in 1909 for Sir Felix Seaman, King Edward VII's physician. Bignalls has 12 bedrooms, five reception rooms, including a large dining hall with a minstrels' gallery (who cares about hi-fi anyway), two bathrooms, a five-car garage and full central heating.

The grounds cover about three acres and there are splendid views of the Handen Valley. Allsop and Co the agents are asking £32,500. They point out that although Bignalls could continue to be used as a private residence, it could be used for institutional purposes: for instance, a training college or convalescent home.

Regency charm

A Regency house of considerable charm, just off Eaton Terrace and a few minutes from Chester and Sloane Squares, is now on the market.

The house is 24 Caroline Terrace, Belgravia, SW1, and the agents, Wilson & Company, Mount Street, are asking £14,500 for the 30½ years unexpired portion of the lease. The house has recently been repainted and there is a walled garden at the back. It has full gas-fired central heating.

The house has three storeys. There is a large double drawing-room which has a fireplace and fitted bookshelves, French windows leading to the garden, a cloakroom, dining-room, modern kitchen, three bedrooms and a large bathroom. The ground-rent is £220 a year.

doreen king

SALEROOMS

FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER

Antique and modern furniture and household effects. 10.0. Phillips, Son & Neale, Marylebone Auction Rooms

MONDAY 2 JANUARY

Antique and reproduction furniture, silver and plate, china, glass, carpets, rugs and pictures. 11.0. Phillips, Son & Neale, Blenstock House

Stamps and covers of Newfoundland, Canada and the Provinces. Included in this sale is the classic air-mail rarity: a 1919 "MS Martinsyde," 3c, brown, on complete cover with "7 JA 20" London arrival mark; estimated value is over £2,000. 1.30. Harmer's

TUESDAY 3 JANUARY

Furniture and household goods. 11.0. Bonham & Sons, Old Chelsea Galleries

English and Continental furniture, porcelain, eastern carpets and rugs. 11.0. Phillips, Son & Neale, Blenstock House

Further sale of stamps and covers of Newfoundland, Canada and Provinces. 1.30. Harmer's

WEDNESDAY 4 JANUARY

English and Continental porcelain. 11.0. Bonham & Sons, Montpelier Galleries. Silver and jewellery. 11.0. Puttick & Simpson

The Dr Joseph Shlosberg collection of British Commonwealth stamps. Among these stamps is a pair of Ceylonese 1922-27 100r, dull purple and blue, from the corner of a sheet with control mark. 1.30. Harmer's

ADDRESSES AND VIEWING TIMES

Bonham & Sons, Montpelier Galleries, Montpelier Street, SW7 (KNI 9161), and **Old Chelsea Galleries**, 75-81 Burnaby Street, SW10 (FLA 0460) – two days before sale

Phillips, Son & Neale Ltd, 7 Blenheim Street, W1 (GRO 8541), and Hayes Place, Lisson Grove, NW1 (PAD 1118) – two days before sale

Puttick & Simpson, Blenstock House, Blenheim Street, W1 (GRO 8541) – day previous to sale

H R Harmer, 41 New Bond Street, W1 (MAY 0218) – W, Th, F before sale 10-5 pm, Sat 10-noon, day of sale 10-1 pm

Above: At Dior's cocktail-and-shopping party evening are Patrick Wymark, Nicole Le Vien, Patrick's daughter Jane and Jack Le Vien.

Below: John Young, Lady Pound and Ken Taylor, at the All Our Own Work party by the Joan Pound Organisation.

THE WEEK

The Power Game tycoon goes Christmas shopping . . . Collins throw a party for their authors . . . and The Speakeasy draws the stars for its opening night: part of The Week in *London Life.*

Right: Wendy Craig, just one of the stars – Hugh O'Brien of *Wyatt Earp* memory was another – at The Speakeasy club opening in Margaret Street. **Left:** All smiles – the critics were kind – from Hayley Mills and co-star Hywel Bennett at the Café Royal party after the showing of their new film *The Family Way*

Below: Face to face at Collins publishing party: Michael Foot and Drusilla Beyfus (her book *A State of Marriage* is to be published by them next year).

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NIGHT OUT AND BEST BARS

SPECTACULARS & CABARETS

ALLEGRO (WHI 6767), Bury Street, St James. 8.30 pm-2.30 am. Cabaret 12.30 am. Dinner £2 7 6d. Until 31 Dec: Bryan Blackburn. From 2 Jan: Paddy Roberts. New Year's Eve gala until 3 am, 6 gns

CELEBRITY (HYD 7636), 17 New Bond Street. 10 pm-4 am. 30s min in Show Room. Service charge. Cabaret 11.15 pm and 1.15 am. New Year's Eve gala, 4 gns

NEGRESCO (MAY 5374), 23 Brook Street. *Nighterie* 7.30 pm-3 am. Five-course meal 35s (*à la carte* M-Th). Music, dancing and cabaret with Ronnie Ross, Art Fairbank, Betty English, Frank Holder. New Year's Eve gala until 4 am, 4 gns

OMAR KHAYYAM (CIT 2660 and 7363), 50 Cannon Street. 6 pm-2 am. Cabaret and belly-dancing 9.30 pm and midnight. Dinner about £2, plus wine. Dancing to trio. New Year's Eve gala until 2 am, 5 gns inc champagne

PIGALLE (REG 6423), 190 Piccadilly. 7.30 pm-3.30 am. Floor show. Until 30 Dec: Chan Canasta. M-Sat: Dinner, dance and show 57s 6d, plus wine. M-F: Supper, dance and show 30s. Dancing to two orchestras. New Year's Eve gala, 6 gns

RICKY RENEES (COV 0735), 24/26 Russell Street. 10 pm-4 am. Cabaret 1 am. Extensive menu, *table d'hôte* 37s 6d. Dancing to trio

TALK OF THE TOWN (REG 5051), Hippodrome Corner, Leicester Square. Restaurant 8.15 pm to 1.15 am. Revue 9.30 pm. Cabaret 11 pm. Currently: Frank Ifield. Dinner, dance and show M-F 59s 6d, Sat: 65s. New Year's Eve gala, 6 gns.

DINNER & DANCE

ANNABEL'S (MAY 3558), 44 Berkeley Square. 6.30 pm until late. Membership 12 gns. Dinner-dancing £6-£7. Discothèque, late dining club. New Year's Eve: Spencer Davis Group

CHINA GARDEN (GER 6500 and 8189). 6 pm-1 am. Closed Sun. *A la carte* dinner approx 30s a head, plus wine. Cover charge for dancing. No service charge. Dancing to records and licence to 1 am. New Year's Eve gala until 2 am

GATTOPARDO (WEL 4689), 29a James Street. 7 pm-3 am, dinner about 50s inc wine. Closed Sun. Licence and dancing to 3 am. New Year's Eve £3 10s

LA PALOMA (BAY 1910), 103 Westbourne Grove. 8 pm-midnight. Closed Mon. Membership 21s. Entrance fee. Dinner about 15s, plus wine. Discothèque. Dancing to Los Caballeros

RIVER CLUB (VIC 1621), 129 Grosvenor Road. 5.30 pm-2 am. Membership 8 gns. Dinner 49s 6d. Cover charge. Roof garden with bar. Casino. New Year's Eve 8 gns

ROOF RESTAURANT (HYD 8000), Hilton Hotel, Park Lane. Bar 5.30-11 pm (M-Sat), 7-10.30 pm (Sun). Restaurant 7 pm-1 am. Closed Sun. £3-£4 inc. Dancing to Judd Solo and his Band. New Year's Eve gala dinner-dance until 2.30 am, 7½ gns. Cabaret: Roy Castle

ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL (WES 8000), Kensington High Street. Royal Roof Restaurant. Dinner 7.30 pm-1 am. Closed Sun. About £4, plus wine. Trio and Royal Roof Strings. New Year's Eve until 2 am, 8½ gns, Palace Suite: gala ball, with Tommy Cooper, Cyril Stapleton and his band. Until 2 am, 5½ gns

DISCOTHEQUES

BIRDLAND (WHI 1648), 4 Duke of York Street. 8 pm-1 am. Membership £1. Entrance fee. Light refreshments. New Year's Eve party to 3 am. Men 15s, girls 10s

BLAISE'S (KEN 6228), 121 Queen's Gate. 9 pm-2.30 am. Membership 2 gns. Entrance fee. *A la carte* from 17s 6d. Different live group every night. Gaming

CLUB EUROPA (HAM 5437), 251 Finchley Road. 8 pm until late. Membership 15s. Entrance fee. Food 10s-15s. Licensed to midnight

DOLLY'S (GRO 5927), 57 Jermyn Street. 10.30 pm-4 am. Closed Sun. Membership 5 gns. Cover charge. Grills

FLAMINGO (GER 1549), 33/37 Wardour Street. T, W, Th and Sun: 8-11 pm. Fri and Sat: 8-11 pm and midnight-5 am. Rhythm and blues, pop, and US artists. Membership. Entrance fee. Unlicensed. New Year's Eve: Winston G

DIE FLEDERMAUS (REG 5741), 7 Carlisle Street. 8 pm-3 am. Membership £1. Entrance fee. New Year's Eve: Silvesterabend

SAMANTHA'S (734-5425), 3 New Burlington Street. 8 pm-3 am. Membership £1. Entrance fee. Drinks at pub prices. Grills approximately 8s. Groups. Samantha's silent movies on the patio. New Year's Eve: Psychedelic party

SCOTCH OF ST JAMES' (TRA 6109), 13 Mason's Yard, Duke Street. 10 pm-4 am. Membership 5 gns. Entrance fee for guests. Grills about £1. Resident groups. New Year's Eve: Eric Burdon and the New Animals

GAMING

CROCKFORD'S (930-2721), 16 Carlton Terrace. Bridge from 2.30 pm, gaming from 5 pm. Membership 8 gns. Bridge, chemin de fer, roulette, blackjack, baccarat and poker. Restaurant and bar. New Year's Eve dinner: 5 gns

GOLDEN NUGGET (REG 6211), 32 Shaftesbury Avenue. Midday until last member leaves. Membership 21s. Blackjack, kalooki, dice, chemin de fer, poker, roulette, baccarat, pontoon. Restaurant, bar

HAMILTON CLUB (GRO 2591), 2 Hamilton Place. Open all the time. Membership 8 gns. Mainly bridge but some poker. Restaurant, bar

NEW CASANOVA (MAY 1463), 52 Grosvenor Street. Opens 9.30 pm. Membership 2 gns. Backgammon, blackjack, roulette, chemin de fer

THE NIGHTINGALE (GRO 1633), 28 Berkeley Square. Midday until end of play. Membership 5 gns. Kalooki and bridge. Licensed. Restaurant downstairs

PAIR OF SHOES (HYD 1801), 21 Hertford Street. Restaurant with pianist Roy Budd from 7.30 pm. Gaming starts 10 pm. Membership (temporarily closed) 10 gns. Craps, blackjack, roulette. Bar

PALM BEACH CLUB (HYD 6585), 30 Berkeley Street. 6.30 pm until dawn. Membership £1. Baccarat, blackjack, chemin de fer, dice, roulette, American roulette. Restaurant and bar

OLYMPIC CASINO (BAY 2163), 79 Queensway. 5 pm until play ends. Membership 2 gns. Baccarat, blackjack, chemin de fer, roulette, dice, punto-banco, trente et quarante. Restaurant and bar

MOONEY'S, 395 Strand, WC2. A long, long bar, just under half the length of a football pitch. A real pub, with heavy marble-topped bar, wonderfully laconic barman, and Irish service and atmosphere. The draught Guinness is recommended. Drink a while and observe a passing parade of characters. But it is *such* a long walk if one wishes to use facilities

NELSON BAR AND GRILL, Craven Street, WC2. The one-time plushness is fading now, but still a cosy spot to linger in. Large lounge, with banquette seating and tables and speedy attention from waiters and barmen. After several drinks, you may find a meal in the grill room acceptable. Useful place to remember, if shopping in or near the Strand

SURREY TAVERN, Trinity Ro[ad], Wandsworth Common. Clean, w[ell]-carpeted pub with red-leath[er] chairs. Very good beer and a w[ide] selection of snacks and sa[n]-wiches. Very good service. [Car] park. A nice meeting place

THE PIED BULL, Streatham H[igh] Road. A very large pub, with [two] bars. Good food in comforta[ble] surroundings. Attractively dec[or]-ated with soft lighting. Car pa[rk]

KINGS ARMS, Old Kent Road. A good pub, but always packed so[lid], so the service is on the slow s[ide]. No food, but it does have as r[e]-dents one of the best groups [in] London – Zack Lawrence and [his] Quartet. Provides a tremend[ous] atmosphere for a night out

BRITISH QUEEN, New Wanste[ad], Leytonstone. Country-type [pub] with oak beams and white ceili[ngs]. Gardens with tables front and r[ear]. Snacks and sandwiches. Serv[ice] good. Atmosphere very inform[al]

HORSE AND GROOM, Kinner[ton] Street, SW1. Smallish and v[ery] swinging place, in a deligh[tful] street, and frequented by delig[ht]-ful people. Lovely girls, elega[nt] but not chinless – men, and [a] very special atmosphere [that] abounds in Belgravia. Serv[ice] impeccable

PHOENIX, 37 Cavendish Squ[are], W1. Newish, and one large bar on the ground floor. Down below, in a large basement area, there is [the] most incredible discothèque, wh[ich] is invariably packed with danc[ers] in their late teens. Reproducti[ons] of Renoir, Rembrandt, Goya [and] Belotto grace the walls, as [the] place jumps to the latest discs

GUNMAKERS ARMS, Little E[ton] Hill, WC1. A good little pub, wh[ere] you would almost think you w[ere] in the country, despite the te[n]-ements and warehouses arou[nd]. Plain wooden walls. Excellent beer, filling sandwiches, and nothing is too much trouble for the landlord

COCKTAIL TIME

BLUE ANGEL BAR, Blue Angel Club, Berkeley Street, W1. Open from 6.30 pm, and an ideal place for pre-dinner drinks, if one is spending the evening in or around Mayfair. Although in a night-club, prices are not much higher than in an ordinary bar. Tim Connor plays guitar and sings for discriminating listeners

COCKTAIL BAR, Berkeley Hotel, Berkeley Street, W1. As befits the restrained sumptuousness of the hotel, this offers near-plush drinking with dignity and deep-seated comfort. Ideal place for aperitif time before lunching or dining

GOOD EATING

In these twitching times, I have had cause to regret here before, it is almost impossible to get reasonable coffee in civilised surroundings much after 7 or 8 in the evening. Mini-London goes to bed early, and we few adults get a pretty raw deal.

The deal doesn't come much more raw than at the Festival Hall, whose substantial, comfortable, value-for-money new cafeteria invariably closes for the night (they all unblushingly concede there) about 45 minutes after a concert ends.

The particular incident that aroused my ire, scorn, and all-round curiosity was after the latest Rubenstein concert. The maestro is not as young as he used to be, so the other Monday night he only gave three encores. Result: concert ended at 10.30 pm.

But the cafeteria's manageress, apparently confused by the earlier exodus of train-catching music-lovers, closed down only 15 or 20 minutes after the final bow. Customers were turned away coffee and sandwich-less into a chill December night.

Now Ring & Brymer (part of the Forte empire), who have the catering concession at the Festival Hall, tell me they are sorry that would-be customers were turned away that night. But they stand slightly firmer on the general principles of too-early closing.

Half-hour limit

They tell me that the self-service time limit of 30 minutes after the concert ends was arranged with the Festival Hall management. Costs come into this, of course. Hall staff would have to be paid overtime as well as restaurant staff, for longer hours.

Ring & Brymer argue that they try to give a comprehensive service, from opening time at 10 am, that they run two shifts as it is, and that their staff have to get home.

I accept that up to a point. But they have a monopoly, not only at the Festival Hall but on the South Bank, too. It is virtually a Waterloo monopoly, for that part of the metropolis is not the best area for gastronoming and kafé-klatching in.

Ring & Brymer actually told me they *were* very conscious of rendering a public service. Well, in that case, I want them to render until midnight. They could stop serving at, say, 11.45 pm, and shut completely at the stroke of 12.

Tea-bags out

I am delighted to report that *shalom* (peace to you natives) has been restored between Blooms and me. Tea-bags are OUT. Tea like my grandmother used to make is IN. It just goes to show what a little campaigning can do.

Mrs. Bloom phoned me after coming back from holiday and catching up with such essential reading as *London Life*. she explained:

"We use tea-bags at home, and I thought they would be better for the restaurant, too – cleaner, you know? But if you aren't happy with them, we'll go back to the old way today."

So for once *heimishe* wasn't right for a kosher restaurant! Anyway, a colleague lunched at Bloom's right after that phone call, and reported to me later that all was restored. Keeping customers happy – even food writers – is a lovely way to run a restaurant. Thanks very much, Mrs B!

● Mr Robert Carrier, the well-known Islington restaurateur, *is* moving West. Fresh from his triumphs in Camden Passage (the Portobello Road of the North) he is readying plans now for a second Carriers (no chi-chi nonsense about number 2) in Kensington.

arthur pottersman

LONDON CHOICE

AU JARDIN DES GOURMETS, French, 5 Greek Street, W1 (GER 1816). Mon-Sat 12.30-2.30. Average bill for two £4 10s-£5. CREDIT CARDS: *Diners, American Express*

BARON OF BEEF, English, Gutter Lane, Gresham Street, EC2 (MON 6961). Mon-Fri 12-3 and 5.30-9.30 (last orders, but licensed to 11). Smack in the middle of the City, and the eating is first-rate. No credit cards, but private accounts can be arranged

BLOOMS, Kosher, 90 Whitechapel High Street, E1 (BIS 6001), and Golders Green Road, NW11 (SPE 1338). Mon-Thurs 11 am-10 pm, Fri 11 am-3 pm, Sun 11 am-11.30 pm. Average bill for two 35s. No credit cards

GAY HUSSAR, Hungarian, Greek Street, W1 (GER 0973). Dinner 6.30-11 pm. Dishes from other parts of central and eastern Europe as well. Very good value *table d'hôte* lunch. No credit cards

THE IVY, English and Italian, West Street, WC2 (TEM 4751/2). Mon-Sat 12.30-2.15 pm and 6-11.15 pm. Three-course dinner at around 45s a head, but average bill for two £5-£6. CREDIT CARDS: *Diners, American Express*

KETTNER'S, Swiss, Romilly Street, W1 (GER 3437). Lunch: noon-2.45 pm. Dinner: 6-11.40 pm. (Suns 7-10.40 pm.) Family lunch, 25s, Sat and Sun. Bill for two: about £5. CREDIT CARDS: *Diners, American Express*

LA COLOMBINA D'ORO, Italian, 61 Dean Street, W1 (REG 4150, 6875). Open every day from 12-2 pm and 6 (Sundays 6.30) to 11.30 pm. Expect to pay about £4 for two. No credit cards

MAISON PRUNIER, 72 St James's Street, SW1 (HYD 1373/4). Dinner and supper 5.45-11.30 pm. Open Sundays. Excellent fish restaurant. Very expensive, but pre-theatre supper (5.45-7 pm) only 27s 6d CREDIT CARDS: *Diners, Eurocard, American Express*

SAVOY GRILL, English, Strand, WC2 (TEM 4343). Until 1 am Mon-Sat. All *à la carte* with main dishes quite often over the £1 mark. Wines: 15s by the carafe. No credit cards

VEERASWAMY'S, Indian, 99 Regent Street, W1 (REG 1401/3). Dinner 6-12 pm (Sunday 7-10.30 pm). Set lunch 18s 6d; set dinner 21s. CREDIT CARDS: *Diners, American Express, Eurocard*

AROUND TOWN

THE ALCOVE, 17 Kensington High Street, W8 (WES 1443). Open for lunch and dinner six days a week, Monday to Saturday. There is a 15s 6d *table d'hôte* lunch as well as the *à la carte*, served from noon to 3 pm (last order time, shoppers please note). Dinner is *à la carte* from 6 pm to 11 pm (last orders). It gives me great pleasure to recommend this place, right opposite the Royal Garden Hotel – and parking is not too bad, either. Cosy, with an admirably designed long entrance-hall, so that the outer tables are warmly away from the wind-producing doors and windows. I like the light level here – not dim, thank goodness, not glaring; very pleasant, equable red glow. In fact, this is owned by the Express Dairy, but they leave it all, very sensibly, to the ebullient and friendly manager, Mr Franco ("Same as the Generalissimo in Spain," he says, "but no relation because I am Italian.") The menu is Italo-French, with some excellent *pasta* that includes first-rate *tortelloni* imported from Italy as often as possible, but not written on the menu because fresh deliveries cannot always be guaranteed. Other dishes, ranging from *poussin* to *tournedos* to *fritto misto* are really reliable, I should say. Sweets, though a bit more limited in range, include a very rich *gâteau* as well as sorbets, etc. Coffee – I see I've ticked that; wine is OK. One small point – the French bread was on the dry side by the time we got to sitting down, and the waiter replaced it – on request – with more French bread on the dry side. But this is a place I would bring the girl I was courting – and her parents, too. Nice to see all the tables arranged so that you sit next to each other. Reckon to pay about £2 a head. CREDIT CARDS: *Diners, American Express, CCF*

MERMAID RESTAURANT, Puddle Dock, EC4 (CIT 2835). Open for lunch Monday to Friday from noon to 2.30 (last orders) and dinner Monday to Saturday from 6.30 pm to about 9.30 pm for last orders. Both meals include a 14s 6d three course *table d'hôte* as well as *à la carte* menus. Faintly chaotic informality, plain not uncomfortable chairs and quite spacious décor; splendid view of the wind-swept Thames through a huge picture window. Friendly and helpful waitresses, very fair wine list. There is little more to say, except that you will do very well, value-for-money and all, on their fixed menu, and frankly I cannot see there is so much to gain by going *à la carte*. Sensible and not too plain English food – broth, braised leeks, apple pie, that sort of thing. Only snag: when traffic is heavy, taxi-drivers may make you cross Queen Victoria Street yourself, and fragile ladies may care to be warned for wet and windy days; I know to my cost that romantic evenings can end there. *Observer* crowd use it. CREDIT CARDS: None

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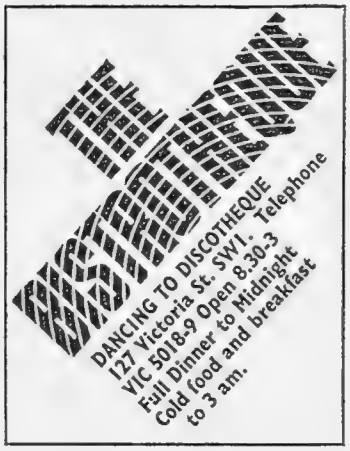

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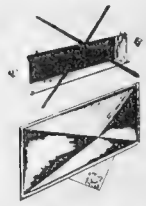

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London Letters

Drinking and driving

The party season is on. Mrs Castle, like her predecessors, will trot out the festive Ministry of Transport Christmas message – Don't drink and drive. An excellent sentiment, but has Mrs Transport considered what happens to those who have to leave their cars at home, say on a Saturday (Britain's traditional night out)? Midnight has gone, and, unless you are lucky enough to get a cab, there are no night buses, and swinging London is *sans* suburban trains. It is a long hike after a party, and human nature, being not in its most athletic mood, settles for a drunken driven car. We are back to square one, dear Mrs Transport. **Peter Noone (Herman of the Hermits), Oxford Street, WC1.**

Late shopping

One thing London doesn't have, and most definitely needs, is late opening of shops that sell food. It seems incredible to believe that if one works until 6 pm and struggles home through unbearable rush-hour traffic to reach the corner provision man, to find him closed, that one may have to go without an evening meal. There are a few shops that stay open until the bewitching hour of 7 pm, which does not help those who work late or have guests drop in for coffee. The packed late-late shops bear witness to his need. **T Mills, Kings Road, Chelsea.**

Power to damn

At this time of year, with unfailing and unnerving persistence, the theatre and film critics start nominating their 10-best lists. This practice seems to me at best invidious, at worst an encouragement to the most bizarre, off-beat and *avant-garde* on stage and screen. Are the tastes of the average, reasonably cultured film or theatregoer ever considered? Or does a tight little *coterie* merely seize the chance to exercise their power to damn with faint praise once again? **Robert Stone, Marylebone High Street, W1.**

Two-wheel driver

Having this week failed my English driving test for the second time – although the proud owner of an American *A* licence, an international driving licence, and a competition licence, which enables me to drive competitively both here and abroad –

I can see I shall have to condescend to riding a bicycle for the time being. Any suggestions regarding other means of transport will be gratefully received (Exclude walking.) **Dave Cash, Mayfair, London.**

Hangover cures

With the holiday season fast upon us, we are depending on *London Life* for really sound advice on hangover cures. A favourite barman has just recommended to me as the perfect morning-after drink – freshly squeezed orange juice mixed with a split of champagne. Other friends swear by cold beer, preferably an expensive imported Dortmunder or Lowenbrau. I've often found an initial bismuth draught – sixpence at most chemists – followed by coffee, followed by a double brandy, extremely efficacious. **Nigel Lonsford, Redcliffe Gardens, SW1.**

Rick

After enjoying Rick Dane's programme night after night on Radio Caroline, I was intrigued to see his column in your magazine. What interested me even more was to discover that "pirates" are intelligent as well as entertaining; or maybe Mr Dane is the one exception. Nevertheless, his reviews provide interesting information for people both inside the pop world and out. The choice of records certainly puts *London Life* ahead of others, as lesser known artists are often reviewed. **Caroline Mann, Redcliffe Square, SW10.**

No Hully, or Gully

In your article *What People Are Dancing* (*London Life*, 10 December) a couple at The Saddle Room were quoted as dancing the Hully Gully, but I fear our customers would never dream of doing such an old-fashioned dance! It was the latest discothèque swing! My horse is called Hully Gully, and I've had him 10 years. **Peter Davis, Saddle Room, Hamilton Place, W1.**

Bravo, Mr Fireman

A lot really must be said for the London firemen. Last night a fire occurred in the block of flats opposite my own house, and I watched with fascination as the firemen carried out their duties in a quick and fantastically efficient manner. Within seconds the fire was under control, and due to their rapid arrival – as soon as the alarm was given, it seemed – very little damage was caused. **A J Pullman, Chelsea, SW3.**

Hard beginning

I am vainly trying to become a film actress. I *have* the looks, the figure, the personality and, I trust, the talent; what I haven't got, as Julie Collins (last week's *London Life*) says, is the experience of film work, nor any official drama training. I have no parents to back me. I cannot afford photographs even! I have trudged the streets for over two years to no avail. Have I any faith left? This career, dare I call it 'vocation,' is in my blood and I will never let go! I believe there are at least over 500 such girls in London alone. I am damned sure at least 50 per cent. of these have the talents the film industry are looking for. **(Name supplied), Bolton Gardens, Chelsea, SW5.**

DECIMAL COINAGE

★ How I wish the people of Britain could have a say in the new decimal coinage system. Apart from the Government's plan to adopt perhaps the most expensive method of decimalisation and the most difficult for the general public to understand, many of us are more than content with the present method, and regard our coinage as a cultural heritage.
Stella Johnson, Beresford Road, Bedford

HOPES FOR 1967 –WE ALL HAVE THEM

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london life

reveals the hopes, wishes, resolutions and plans for 1967 held by 60 top names starting off with Julie Andrews star of *Hawaii* – and there's an exciting analysis of how that epic film was made, plus full-colour pictures and

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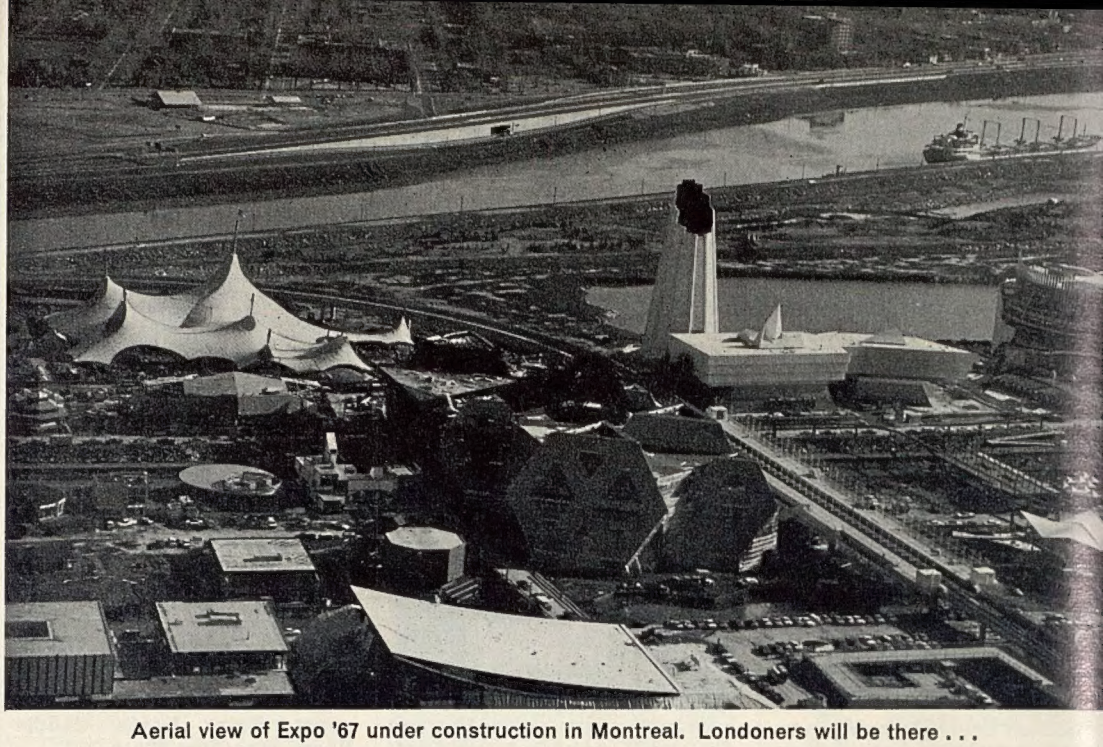

Aerial view of Expo '67 under construction in Montreal. Londoners will be there . . .

ENDPIECE: What's ahead in '67

LONDON Life's last page for 1966 is, in fact, more like a page for 1967. Endpiece? Well, really it's a starting piece, looking at the biggest events that will be happening in and around London – and affecting Londoners – in the coming year.

Already, many events are scheduled, in every field: theatre, sport, exhibitions, concerts, festivals, ceremonies. . . .

Undoubtedly, the major event of the year will be outside London, and outside Britain – **Expo '67,** which opens at Montreal on 28 April, and runs for six months, to mark the Canadian Centennial. Despite the distance and monetary restrictions involved, there have been numerous inquiries in the London area about travel arrangements to Canada.

British designer Sean Kenny is in Canada now working on his contribution to the British section – the Gyrotron thrill-ride. He and his team of young designers and architects are working from, and living aboard, a schooner moored in the St Lawrence river.

At home, cricket enthusiasts will have 77 Sunday matches to choose from this season. Other major events for their diaries: Second Test Match, England v India, beginning 22 June, at Lord's; First Test Match, England v Pakistan, beginning 27 July, at Lord's; Third Test Match, England v Pakistan, beginning 4 August at the Oval.

The 42nd **International Chess Congress** ends at Hastings on 7 January. From next Wednesday, 4 January, that vast conglomeration of yachting "addicts" will be packing Earls Court for the International **Boat Show.**

Rugby: England v Australia, at Twickenham, 7 January; England v Scotland (Calcutta Cup), Twickenham, 18 March; Rugby League Cup Final, Wembley, 13 May.

Soccer: FA Cup Final, Wembley, 20 May; England v Spain, Wembley, 24 May.

Cruft's Dog Show opens at Olympia on 10 February. The same venue will then be occupied by the *Daily Mail* **Ideal Home Exhibition** from 7 March. On 25 March, Oxford and Cambridge will again do battle in the annual **Boat Race** on the Thames, from Putney to Mortlake. The **Royal Academy** Summer Exhibition will open on 1 May, at Burlington House, Piccadilly, and run until August. On 11 May, the **Royal Windsor Horse Show** begins at Windsor, and will be held for three days. **Chelsea Flower Show** will draw crowds to the Royal Hospital Grounds for two days, beginning 24 May.

Racegoers will descend on Epsom for the **Derby,** on 7 June, and the **Oaks** two days later. Next day, attention of many Londoners and visitors will focus on Horse Guards Parade for the **Trooping the Colour Ceremony** on the Queen's official birthday.

The **Antique Dealers' Fair and Exhibition** begins at Grosvenor House on 14 June, followed next day by **Richmond Horse Show.** On 17 June, the **English Bach Festival** opens at Oxford until 2 July.

Royal Ascot is the next big diary entry, running from 20 to 23 June. And, on 26 June, the greatest tennis tournament in the world will begin at **Wimbledon,** until 8 July.

Henley Royal Regatta opens on 28 June, until 1 July. On 22 July, people will mass at Royal Albert Hall for the start of the Proms, which will end on 16 September.

One of the main equestrian events of the year, the **Royal International Horse Show,** will begin at White City on 23 July and run for six days. The day this ends, **Cowes Week** begins, until 5 August.

The Horse of the Year Show opens at Wembley on 2 October, closes 7 October, and Earls Court will again feature as a crowd-puller with the **Motor Show,** from 18 to 28 October.

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